The Middlebury Campus

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McCardell wins Vermonter of the Year

By Tim McCahill
News Editor

Citing his commitment to "restoring [Middlebury's] stability" and "expanding [the College's] contribution to the well-being of Vermont," the *Burlington Free Press* awarded President John McCardell with its prestigious Vermonter of the Year title.

This year marks the third year the award has been presented to a resident of the state.

No specific criteria exists for the recognition, but recipients must have performed some service to their local communities and the state at large.

Past winners include Putney resident Jody Williams, formerly of the International Coalition to Ban Land Mines, and Rita Markley, executive director of the Committee on Temporary Shelter based in Burlington.

McCardell's award was announced in a lengthy article in the *Free Press*' Opinion section on Jan. 1, and was written by Middlebury alumnnus and editorial page editor Stephen Kiernan. McCardell was one of many nominees for the prize, each of whom is carefully examined by the *Free Press*' editorial staff before a final decision was made.

The article cited the multiple achievements McCardell has made since assuming his position in 1991, a turbulent year for the school dominated by layoffs and administrative disarray following the brief tenure and sudden resignation of then-president Timothy Light.

The article likened the challenges faced by McCardell to "running a business in trouble, a large employer in an industry vital to Vermont."

McCardell, who is also a member of the History Department, has been a pivotal figure in the College's turnaround since the early 1990s.

The article cited Middlebury's sizable endowment, approximately $625 million, and the numerous world-recognized institutions that owe their existence in large part to the school's heightened reputation, including the Salzburg Seminar, the Center for Educational Technology and the Geonomics Institute.

While the article dealt at length with McCardell's numerous skills as an administrator, a large portion was also devoted to his track record as state servant and community leader.

McCardell's achievements in these fields include his commitment to providing affordable child care for residents of Addison County and his ardent and thoughtful rejection of a developer's plan to build a chain supermarket on college land off Rte. 7. "The larger point is that McCardell recognizes the [College's] responsibility and opportunity to make a difference in Vermont," Kiernan wrote in the article.

In a state with such a long and proud history of what might be termed "nativism," McCardell's award is not only a prestigious one but also a public relations *coup de grace*.

Phil Benoit, director of public affairs for the College, said in an interview Tuesday afternoon that the award "was a big deal in state like this" and would certainly affix McCardell's reputation "in the minds and hearts of state residents."

Benoit commented that appearing in the *Free Press*, Vermont's largest and possibly most influential newspaper, is analogous to having one's photo on the front page of the *New York Times*.

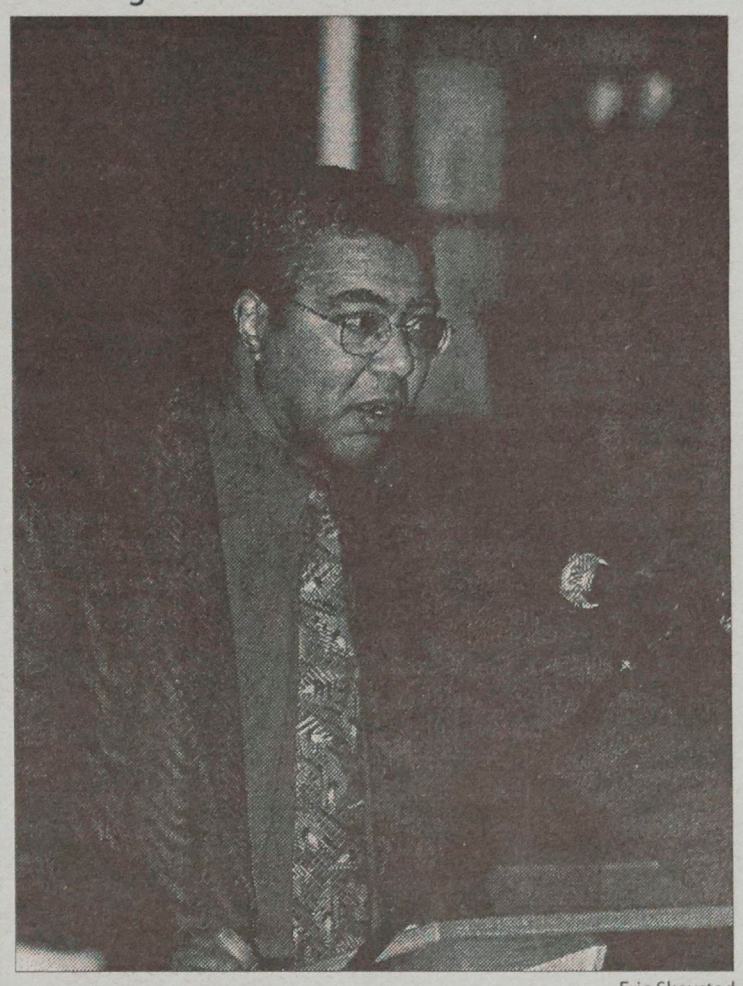
While some native Vermonters might chafe at the thought of someone born outside of the state winning such a lofty prize, Benoit said that reaction to the announcement has been positive overall.

He commented that *Free Press* editors received little negative feedback after their decision was published earlier this month.

McCardell's award follows on the heels on what has been an extraordinarily heady year for the College after receiving tremen-

(see State-wide, page 3)

Honoring the dream



Eric Skovsted

William Hart, *assistant professor of American history, presented the faculty address at the third annual Martin Luther King Jr. breakfast Monday.*

Famed 'Mr. Rogers' to speak at commencement

By Peter Yordan
Staff Writer

Fred Rogers, the long-time host of "Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood," has been chosen as this year's commencement speaker.

Rogers, who for 30 years has been a leading figure in the landscape of children's television, will end production of his PBS television show this month.

Rogers has no doubt had a part in raising the majority of the students whom he will address this spring. His simple message of compassion and love has been heard by generations of children in America.

Born on March 20, 1928, the life-long Pennsylvania resident has been a pioneer of wholesome, child-oriented television programming. In 1954 Rogers created "The Children's Corner," a television show for WQED in Pittsburgh.

The show became "Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood" in 1963, and by 1969 was being aired nationally on PBS.

In the early years of the show, Rogers studied both child psychology and theology, in addition to becoming an ordained minister in 1962.

The show has changed little over the years. Rogers still begins every show by exchanging his coat for a sweater and by putting on his familiar blue shoes.

He still sings his trademark song, "Won't you be my Neighbor," and continues to travel to the "Neighborhood of Make Believe" to visit with Daniel the Tiger, X the Owl, Lady Aberlin, King Friday XIII and the rest of the make-believe community.

Rogers has won countless awards and praise for his straightforward and sincere approach to children and the real-life problems that trouble them.

Rogers never forgets that children feel pain too, and in his show he deals with everything from low self-esteem to bullies to death.

Over the years, Rogers has worked to provide an alternative for parents and children to the harsh and violent shows that often pervade television programming.

Recently, he has stepped up his efforts to have parents take an ac-

(see Television, page 4)

Article draws ire of hockey captain, administrators

By Devin Zatorski
News Editor

According to reputable sources, a *New York Times* article allegedly took out of context statements made by a Middlebury student-athlete, prompting reactions to both the reporter's "disingenuous tactics" and to the public relations value of this highly visible piece.

The article, titled "Gaining Admission: Athletes Win Preference," quoted Matt Skoglund '01 as saying that, "Being a hockey player gave me access to a first-rate education," despite academic qualifications that *Times* reporter Edward B. Fiske wrote "fell short of the usual lofty standards of such institutions," including a score of 1200 on the College Boards.

Skoglund's commentary served as the lead-in to a lengthy article examining the role of athletic prowess in college admissions, with exclusive focus on elite liberal arts colleges such as Middlebury.

A tale of misleading journalism?

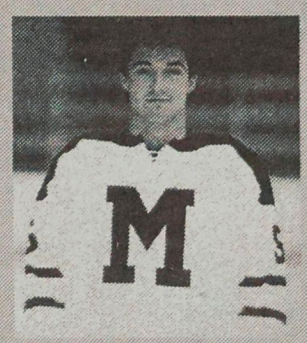
Skoglund leafed through the "Education Life" section of the *Times* on Jan. 7 expecting to see an article on Division III athletes who had the chance to play Division I but turned it down, opting instead for the academic excellence offered by a Division III school like Middlebury.

"Fiske's pitch to me was that I would be an example of a student who chose a Division III school for the academics, because I was thinking about my future," Skoglund said.

When Skoglund discovered that the true scope of the article was to call into question athletic recruiting practices in Division III schools, namely what Fiske called "going lower on the academic ladder" to ensure success on the playing field, he said his "heart sank" out of concern that he had done a "disservice to the school and community."

"I live and die for Middlebury College, as all of us do," he said. The *Times* article was "night and day" from the focus purported by Fiske in his interview with Skoglund.

While he was quoted by Fiske as saying that he would not have gained admission to Middlebury without his hockey talent, Skoglund said he "wanted to use my overall package, between grades, extra-curriculars, and athletic ability to put me in the best school I could possibly get in to." Skoglund graduated from Choate, a private school in Connecticut.



Men's varsity ice hockey captain Matt Skoglund '01.

"I leveled with the guy, was too trusting [and] he burned me in the end," Skoglund continued. He portrayed me as a "dumb jock that got in the back door and probably couldn't spell his own name."

"Don't buy this for a minute," urged Skoglund, who has written for *Middlebury Magazine*, maintains Dean's List honors at the College and is currently a legal intern with a

(see "Disingenuous," page 4)

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www.Middlebury.edu/~campus

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COLLEGE shorts

By Tim McCahill
News Editor

Turning bison into cash cows

The North American Bison Cooperation (NABC) has announced that it will start supplying some two million pounds of bison meat free of charge to college cafeterias across the country over the next year. According to NABC officials, bison meat is lower in calories, fat and cholesterol compared to other popular kinds of animal meat. Treatment of the meat is also unfettered by the use of hormones, something that has come to the forefront after numerous human illnesses were connected to hormone usage in meat products. The meat will be used to make such popular food items as hot dogs and hamburgers.

Duke's chapel opens door to gay unions

Duke University president Nannerl O. Keohane, has announced that the school will start allowing same-sex unions to be formed in the school's chapel. The decision was reached following the recommendations of a special committee consisting of students, faculty and staff. Some students have voiced their disapproval of the decision, deeming it unlawful for partners of the same sex to take vows under conditions similar in traditional weddings.

Bennington College settles with and apologizes to professors it dismissed

Bennington College has agreed to pay a $2 million dollar settlement to 17 former professors fired in 1994. The professors sued the college in 1996, claiming that their rights had been violated after they had been terminated with status approximate to tenure at peer institutions. Bennington justified its ending the professors' contracts by claiming it was part of a larger administrative reorganization program necessary to alleviate financial problems. The termination drew criticism from Bennington's contemporaries, and in 1995 the college was placed on the censured list of the American Association of University Professors. The dismissed professors have donated part of the settlement to create a fund in memory of two former teachers who died before the suit came to a close.

Oakland U. begins online MBA program for students in Lebanon

Oakland University, located north of Detroit, has announced that it will offer an online MBA program to students in Lebanon. The institution is the second American university to have such a program in any Middle Eastern nation other than Israel. Oakland County, where the university is located, is home to some 300,000 Arab-Americans, many of whom trace their origins back to Lebanon. The onlne program will be coupled with distance courses coordinated out Beirut, Lebanon's largest city.

Bush nominates Houston official to be Secretary of Education

Superintendent of Houston schoolsRoderick R. Paige has been picked by President-elect George Bush to be the next Secretary of Education. It is reported that he will focus on accountability in elementary and secondary education, among other issues. Paige coached college football for 20 years in such varied places as Utica Junior College, Jackson State and Southern University.

Source: *The Chronicle of Higher Education*

McCardell named to NCAA council

By Lindsay Frost
Staff Writer

Middlebury College President John McCardell, Jr. was appointed to the Presidents Council for Division III (D-III) of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) on Monday, Jan. 8.

McCardell's appointment was announced at the NCAA's annual convention.

"I am honored to have been chosen by my peers to provide this particular service to higher education," McCardell said.

According to Middlebury Athletic Director Russ Reilly, the Presidents Council consists of 15 chief executive officers (CEOs) representing different D-III institutions.

The council has at least two representatives from each geographical region and seven members-at-large.

The administrative organization of the NCAA is headed by the Executive Council, which has representatives from all divisions of NCAA athletics.

Each division has its own Presidents Council, as well as Management Council and several committees underneath the Presidents Council.

According to the NCAA manual, the Presidents Council of each division has several duties, including implementing the policies adopted by the Executive Council, directing D-III policies and creating a strategic plan for the division.

Reilly said that D-III is currently the only division without a strategic plan, so this project will be at the forefront of the Presidents Council's goals in the coming months.

To this end, the NCAA has set aside $5 million for programs to encourage minorities to become involved in sports regulation.

He also noted that one of the recent goals of the D-III Presidents Council has been to emphasize regular season and regional competition rather than national competition.

The Presidents Council also works to ensure ethnic diversity among its membership and throughout all D-III administrative bodies.

To this end, the NCAA has set aside $5 million for programs to encourage minorities to become involved in sports regulation.

The Presidents Council will be involved in implementing these programs.

Speaking generally on the role of the D-III Presidents Council, McCardell said, "The reality is that Division III schools try to be influential in councils of the NCAA, but our influence comes largely because we represent athletics in its purest form," referring to the fact that D-III schools do not offer athletic scholarships.

"Division III presidents exercise a healthy, if sometimes prickly presence, and serve as a reminder of sport for its own sake," McCardell continued.

McCardell recently ended his term as the head of NESCAC. Reilly said McCardell's experience in that capacity makes him "very versed in our conference issues and...[in] dealing with the NCAA."

Reilly also said that McCardell's term was during a "significant time" for NESCAC in that the conference became much more organized and restructured.

During this time, the conference developed a mission statement and organized conference championships.

"I think it's a great honor for [McCardell], a great honor for our institution, and a great honor for our conference," said Reilly.

Admissions Office posts record number of applications

The College Admissions office again set a record number for applicants this year. According to Director of Admissions John Hanson, the office has received 5288 applications to date, in contrast to last year's record of 5165.

The number of 5288 is also not final, said Hanson, since the office has not yet received some applications from applicants in foreign countries with postal strikes. He said he expects the final count to be slightly beyond the current number if the same amount of applications arrives after the deadline as in previous years.

"The bottom line is that the way Middlebury is viewed by prospective students is positive," Hanson said.

Hanson said that acceptance letters for regular decision applicants will go out on Friday, Mar. 30. Acceptance letters for Early Decision 2 students will be mailed on Friday, Feb. 9.

College Street Children's Center opens doors

The College Street Children's Center, previously operating on Happy Valley Road, is celebrating its second week of caring for children after opening its doors on Jan. 2. According to Director Nadine Hine, the Center supervises 17 children in total, 60 percent belonging to College faculty and staff and 40 from the Middlebury community at large. Children range in ages from six weeks to 2 years; the Center is open from 7:30 in the morning to six in the evening.

The idea came about in a Faculty Council meeting when members voiced concern about inadequate childcare options.

E-Commerce conference to showcase careers in technology

Despite the economic slump that has hit web-based companies especially hard, Middlebury College still believes that the technology field holds many opportunities for its graduates. To allow students to learn more about the field, the College plans to host a career fair and a conference from Jan. 26-28.

According to the public affairs office, the Jan. 26 "Digital Bridges Career Information Fair" is the first the College has ever held. It will provide students with a "snapshot of the technology industry" by bringing together approximately 25 technology-based organizations.

An e-commerce conference titled "Digital Bridges 2001: Where the Old Economy Meets the New" will follow the career fair on Jan. 27-28. Panelists will include dot.com presidents, venture capitalists, educators, and members of the recording industry.

Vote for Senior Class Gift online until noon on January 19

Voting for the Class of 2001 Senior class gift is taking place this week online until Friday at noon. Visit https://www.middlebury.edu:603/gift or find the link through the middkid.com page . A class e-mail will also be sent out with the link.

The Senior Class Gift Committee has decided that our gift will be given in honor of Daniel Stark '01, John Hart '01, and Christine Guilmet '01.The choices for the gift are:

- The Class of 2001 Ropes Course (pending official college approval). The ropes course would be available for varsity sports teams, clubs, organizations and any other group for teamwork and leadership training.

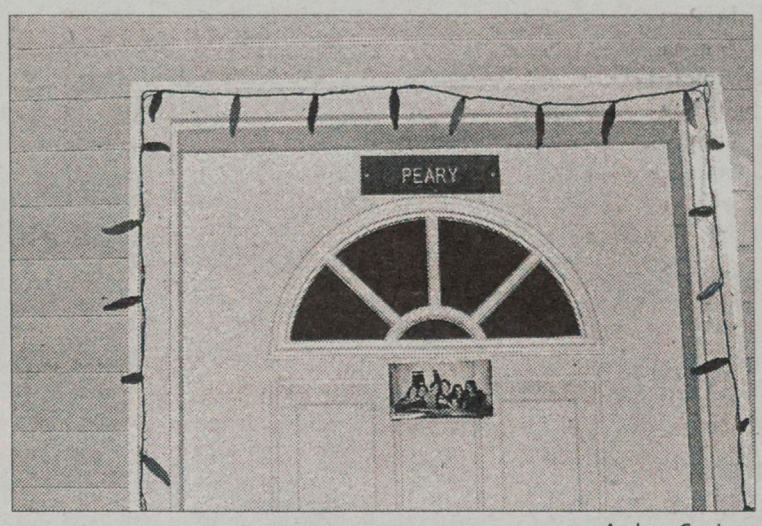
- The Class of 2001 Memorial Park which would consist of landscaping and benches in front of the Library for the 21st century.

- The Class of 2001 Memorial Scholarship which would be a gift of Financial Aid to support students in need. If the class chooses this scholarship fund, an alum will give $200 for every $20 raised in the hopes of establishing an endowed fund that will exist in perpetuity.

- OTHER: Any idea that gains significant support and meets the following criteria:

It must be fully funded by the money raised (approx. $10,000-$15,000) — including installation and lifetime maintenance and must be in the best interest of Middlebury College.

Highly unusual modular home fire leaves little physical damage



Andrew Corrigan

A fire in Peary was quickly put out with a fire extinguisher before causing more serious damage to the house. The room is fully restored now.

By Peter Simon
Staff Writer

A fire broke out in a room in Peary, one of the modular homes of Ross Commons on Wednesday, Jan. 10. The fire, which did not spread outside of the room, started between 9:30 and 11:30 a.m.

It is believed that sunlight coming into the room reflected off of a convex mirror on a table near the window. The light, magnified by the mirror, then bounded onto a straw hat that hung on a bedpost, causing the hat to ignite. The fire eventually caused the bedpost to catch on fire and the fire then spread to a throw rug, the room's carpet and a few other objects around the bed. Two books were damaged and the flooring around the bed was burned.

It is believed that sunlight coming into the room reflected off a convex mirror on a table near the window. The light, magnified by the mirror, then caused the hat to ignite.

Phil Benoit, director of public affairs, said that there was no way the fire could have been predicted or prevented. "It was a freak accident," he said.

According to Vinita Goswami '01, the resident of the room, nobody was inside at the time the fire began. Goswami and a friend returned to the building to find smoke filling the hallway. The two were able to put out the fire using a fire extinguisher.

The Middlebury Volunteer Fire Department arrived shortly afterwards to investigate the fire. Goswami and her friend both inhaled smoke, but neither sustained any serious injuries.

The actual fire was contained to the area around the Goswami's bed, inside the room. Goswami was able to move back into her room on Friday afternoon, but has not yet replaced the items that were damaged. The only damage outside of the room was the soot that collected on the walls in the hallway from the smoke. The walls of the hallway were re-painted early the next morning.

Goswami praised Middlebury College and Ross Commons for their help and promptness in dealing with the situation. "Everyone has been extremely helpful through this whole ordeal," said Goswami.

Career Services celebrates a banner fall semester

By Becky Ruby
Staff Writer

MoJo. Non-Profit Fair. Etiquette Dinner.

The Career Services Office (CSO) has bombarded the student body this year with information and exciting events.

"Education and communication were two big goals this year," says Jaye Roseborough, executive director of CSO. "It's a new focus, a new target."

New programs this fall included the Etiquette Dinner, where Middlebury students received instruction and practice in proper interview dining etiquette.

In addition, CSO is hosting the Digital Bridges Career Information Fair this Winter Term, in which more than 25 high-tech organizations will come to campus and talk with students about what a liberal arts graduate can do in the technological industry. This spring, CSO will host the first ever Vermont Employers Career Fair.

"We want people to know that we're not just here for writing resumes. We have a full service program for every student starting as early as your first year," says Roseborough.

To make students more aware of their diverse offerings, CSO has put a weekly ad in *The Middlebury Campus* highlighting CSO Web pages and special events. CSO has also been encouraging students to register online for their personal MoJo files.

As in past years, recruiting on campus has been a focus for CSO. This year, Goldman Sachs named Middlebury a firm-wide recruiting school, a title reserved for top-tier schools.

These files help CSO send students information pertaining to their major and career goals, as well as announcements on panels, workshops and new materials, said Roseborough.

As in past years, recruiting on campus has been a focus for CSO. This year, Goldman Sachs named Middlebury a firm-wide recruiting school, a title reserved for top-tier schools. Winter Term is a busy time for CSO, said Claire Tetrault, assistant director for internships. Over 150 students are spending Winter Term interning across the nation.

"The most popular career industry is medicine," said Tetrault. "We have students interning at Porter Hospital, doing research at other institutions and shadowing physicians," she said. "We even have four students teaching English as a Second Language in Costa Rica."

Another Winter Term activity for CSO has been running a workshop entitled "HIRE Education." The workshop takes students through the steps of finding and applying for a job. Roseborough said that the turnout has been "standing room only."

"It's going really well," she added. CSO plans to continue its active effort to make the Middlebury College community more aware of the services it offers, said Roseborough.

"We're making a concerted effort to have something for everyone going on all year long," Roseborough said. As underclassmen, this includes evaluating interests and looking at jobs in a particular major, internship opportunities and resume help. For seniors, this includes all steps of the job-searching process, she said.

For more information concerning any of the aforementioned programs and services, check out the CSO Web page at http://www.middlebury.edu/~cso.

State-wide honor takes McCardell by surprise

(continued from page 1)

dous visibility in the local media during its bicentennial celebrations. McCardell commented in an e-mail written on Monday that "It was quite an honor, and a complete surprise, to open the *Free Press* New Year's morning and see that I had been named Vermonter of the Year."

It was quite an honor, and a complete surprise, to open the *Free Press* New Year's morning and see that I had been named Vermonter of the Year.
—John M. McCardell, Jr.

He also commended the *Free Press* for an "especially good job of pointing out both the many good things going on at Middlebury and the importance of higher education to the state of Vermont."

While the article showed overwhelming praise for McCardell and the College as a whole, it did point to two elements that critics of the institution are quick to indicate – the school's elitist nature and its plans for expansion in the future. "There is no question that Middlebury College is an elite place," the *Free Press* said, citing the numbers of former team captains, publications editors and class presidents in this year's first-year class.

The article also mentioned Middlebury's plan to expand its residential commons and other aspects of its physical plant over the next five years. This ambitious program has drawn some criticism from vocal townspeople, particularly those living near planned construction sites.

These darker aspects of the College, however, were balanced by mention of the extensive list of services and employment opportunities offered to town, Addison County and Champlain Valley residents, as well as the community work carried out by McCardell and Middlebury students alike. As was cited in the article, the commitment to the local community has only strengthened during McCardell's tenure – a tremendous improvement from the early 1990s.

Snowy Success

Andrew Corrigan

A jubilant player *raises his hands in the air signaling a goal during a broomball game on Monday night in front of McCullough. The lawn there has seen a lot of action in the last week since its transformation into a sheet of ice for winter play.*

'Disingenuous' article provokes reaction from on and off ice

(continued from page 1)

firm in town. From the onset, he understood that he had "four years of hockey and then the rest of [his] life."

In a phone interview on Monday, Fiske maintained, "I certainly didn't intend to mislead anyone regarding what the story was about, and I don't think I did.

"I'm sorry if that's how people feel," said Fiske, a former education editor of the *Times* and editor of the annual "Fiske Guide to Colleges," an authoritative voice in the college selection process.

Fiske declined further comment, saying instead that "the article speaks for itself."

NEWS analysis

Response from the Emma Willard House and Old Chapel

While Mike Schoenfeld, dean of enrollment planning, "believes Matt was used and mislead" by Fiske's "disingenuous" approach, he concedes that the article sheds light on an important issue - "whether we are overemphasizing athletics at the expense of our academic mission."

That's a question the admissions committee asks each time it makes an admissions decision, Schoenfeld said.

"To be sure there is more recruiting in athletics [than for students with other exceptional talents], but the bottom line is that we accept students we want to have at Middlebury," Schoenfeld said.

Strengthening Schoenfeld's assertion, President John McCardell said, "I have not seen evidence to convince me that the performance of student-athletes is appreciably different" from the student body as a whole.

There seems to be no compelling indication that "Middlebury College is 'dipping' in order to admit athletes."

McCardell cited the 1997 champion women's lacrosse team, in which two of four senior women were awarded to the prestigious Phi Beta Kappa designation for academic excellence.

From examples like this McCardell gleans a broader truth: "It no longer follows that the academic quality of an institution is inversely proportional to its athletic success."

"Interestingly," McCardell continued, "Mr. Fiske chose not to mention [examples like our 1997 women's lacrosse team]."

Schoenfeld stressed that "Middlebury needs to feel good about the students [the admissions office] selects," and he encouraged the community not to draw conclusions based on "this kind of journalism," which is "misleading at best, dishonest at worst."

Schoenfeld also said that the reader should be wary of any article that reduces the qualifications of an applicant to SAT scores and quotes a Middlebury admissions official who has been retired for nearly a decade.

Fiske quoted Rick Dalton, a former Middlebury admissions official, on the effect the early decision system has on athletic recruiting.

"I wish Fiske had spoken at greater length with admissions officials who are currently engaged in the actual process," said McCardell.

"It is a great mistake to assume that the process of admissions is an objective one. If it were, we would not need to have two human beings read each of the 5,100 applications that come into this school," he added.

In response to the fundamental question posed by the article - whether Middlebury gives preference to athletes - Schoenfeld said,

"Well yes, we do. We look at athletic abilities as we look at other abilities in the equation."

While this issue is certainly one of substance, Schoenfeld feels that "Fiske used [Skoglund's] comments for his own purpose and...made his point at the expense of a young man who is a fine student and a fine representative of Middlebury College. I know Matt is hurt because he loves Middlebury and feels he let the institution down."

Despite Skoglund's concerns about having let Middlebury down, Director of Affairs Phil Benoit labels the publicity generated by the article as "benign to very positive." According to Benoit, the article "grouped us with colleges that are the best in the country," including Amherst, Williams and Hamilton.

From the public relations angle: good or bad press?

Despite Skoglund's concerns about having let Middlebury down, Director of Public Affairs Phil Benoit labels the publicity generated by the article as "benign to very positive."

"The fact that a standout hockey player with 1200 on the SAT was worried about gaining admission to Middlebury portrays us as a highly selective institution," said Benoit.

In addition, the article "grouped us with colleges that are unquestionably the best in the country," including Amherst, Williams and Hamilton. "Not to be included in that group is possibly a problem."

While Skoglund may have been "victimized by a journalist who was less than forthcoming," the piece was not at all damaging to the institution, Benoit continued.

In fact, "the visibility for Middlebury, with a full color photo and being in the lead of the story, positioned us in the minds of some readers as very prominent among these schools."

Yet another byproduct of the article, noted McCardell, is the introspection that can come from having one's own "policies and their consequences subjected to scrutiny."

In response to the soon-to-be-released Bowen-Schulman data, compiled into a book that analyzes athletes' admissions and academic records and undoubtedly was a catalyst to Fiske's article, the NESCAC league schools have spearheaded an investigation of whether athletes do in fact underperform academically at Division III colleges.

Nevertheless, McCardell remains confident that Middlebury's athletic and admissions policies can withstand such scrutiny.

Television star to speak at May graduation

(continued from page 1)

tive and responsible role in their children's television consumption. He never tires of reminding parents of the importance of love and caring in a child's life.

At this year's commencement speech, Rogers will no doubt ask the audience to take 10-seconds of silent contemplation to think about the loved ones in their lives, an exercise he began with his acceptance speech for the Lifetime Achievement Award he received at the 1998 Emmy Awards.

Rogers, a graduate of Rollins College in Florida, has received over 30 honorary degrees by various colleges and universities.

In addition to his long and distinguished career in television, the Commencement Committee also considered Rogers' special connection to Middlebury College.

Francois Clemmons, a Twilight Artist-in-Residence and the conductor of the College Choir, has been a regular cast member on Rogers' television show.

Clemmons, who first met Rogers while singing in a choir in Pittsburgh ("He was a big fan of mine," Clemmons said with a smile) considers Rogers a close friend and a mentor.

"He became my surrogate father," said Clemmons. "I learned a lot about life, loyalty and friendship from him."

Clemmons, whom Rogers has frequently asked to sing on his show, is unrestrained in his lavish praise of the man the College has asked to address the senior class at the commencement ceremony on May 27.

"Fred Rogers is right up there in my book with Dr. Martin Luther King and Ghandi," Clemmons went on to say.

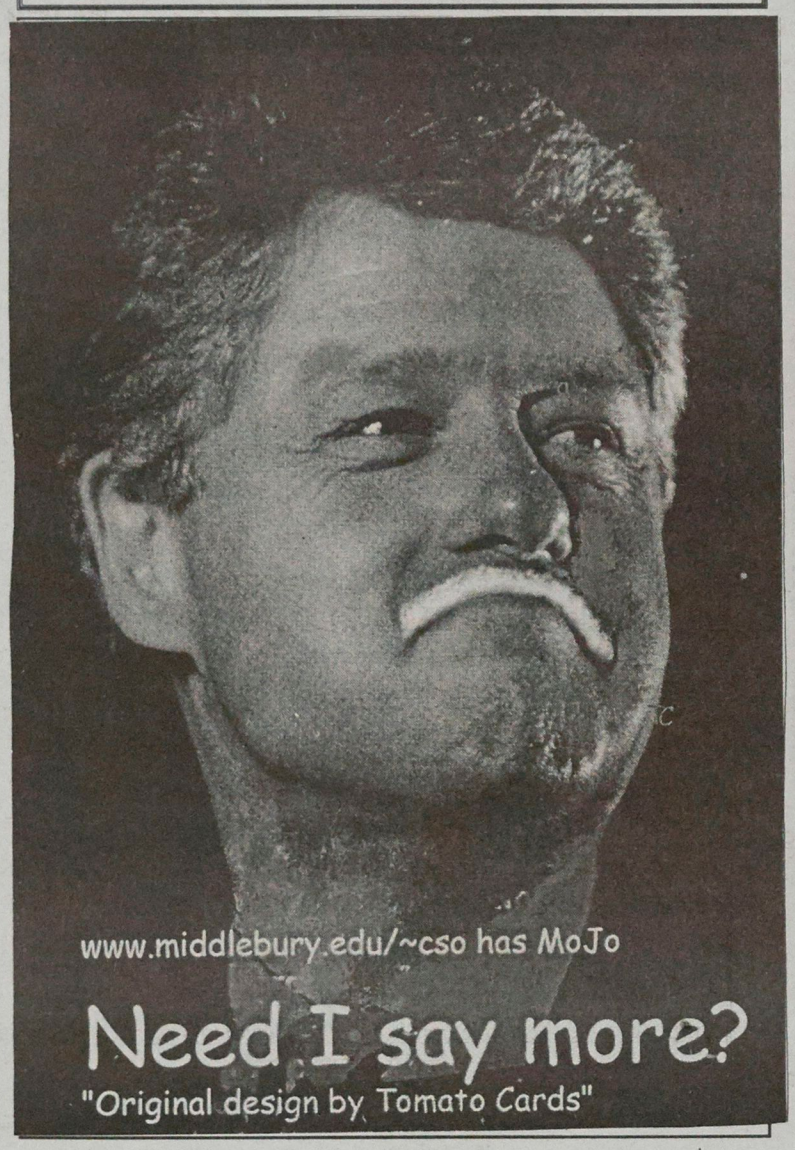
The Campus is currently looking to fill the following positions. Anyone interested should contact Editor-in-Chief Nicole Miller at ext. 6882.

—Local News Editor

—Staff Writers

—Cartoonists

—Online Editor and Web Designer



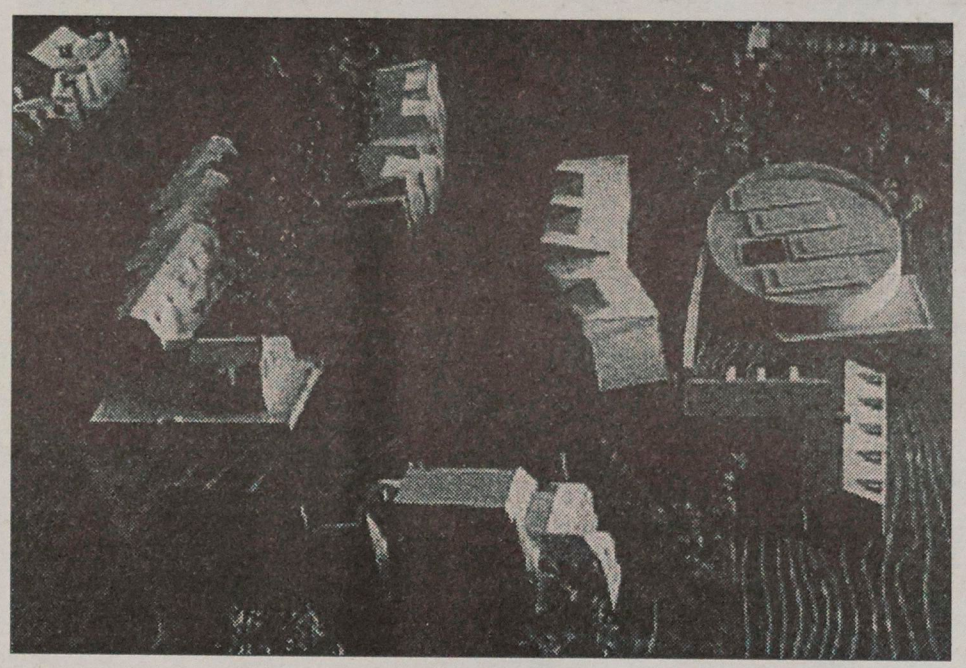
Plans for Atwater expansion

Andrew Corrigan

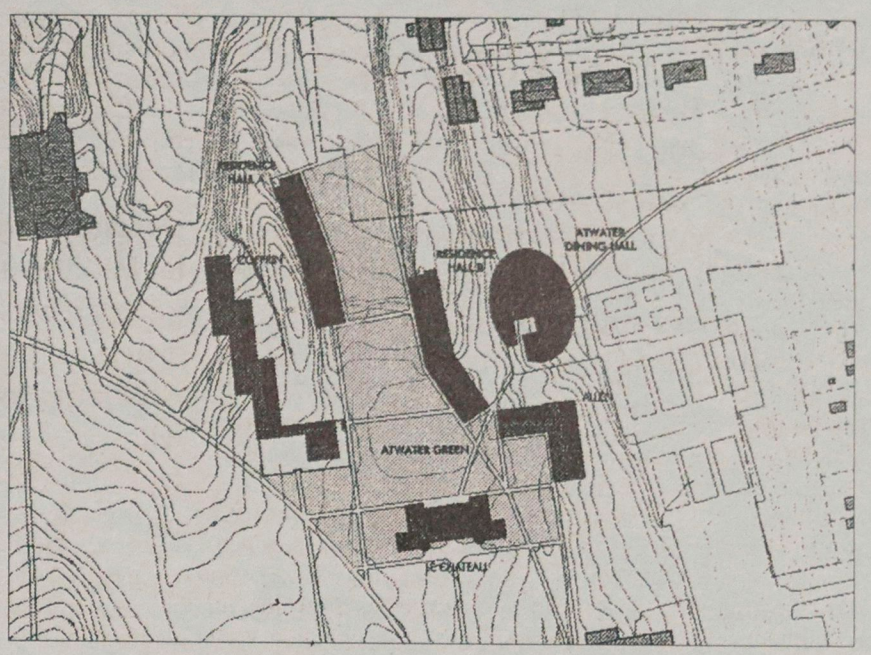
Architect Jim Timberlake *explains the new design for the expanded Atwater Commons housing and dining facility to a resident of Murdock Court which is behind Allen.*

Off the drawing board:
College reveals plans for expanded Atwater Commons and renovated Nelson Arena

Model of the new Atwater Commons

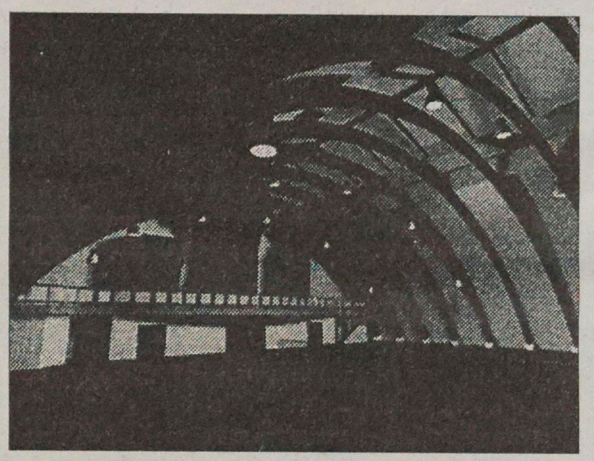


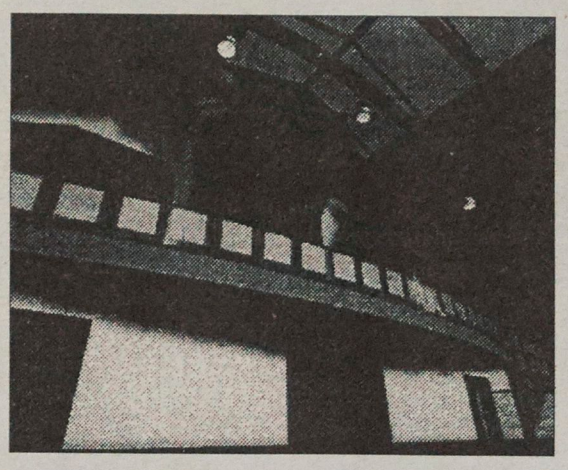
Site map of the new Atwater Commons

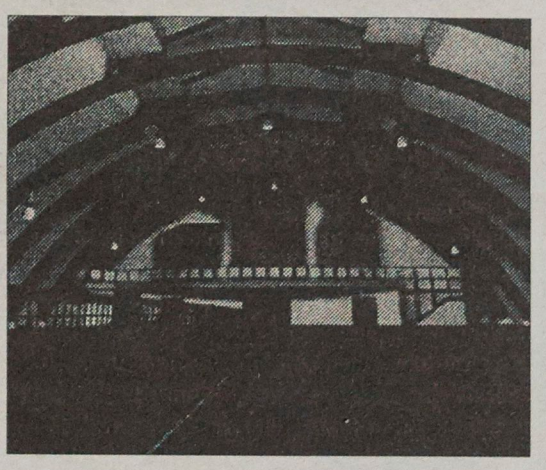


Atwater Commons is slated to become the second commons with a complete residential infrastructure after Ross. It will house its own dining facility. The Atwater Commons project, which has been in the works for nearly 18 months, is expected to win approval at the Board of Trustees February meeting. According to an update written by the Facilities Planning department, the plan for an expanded Atwater Commons "includes the addition of 160 beds and a new dining facility with a seating capacity of approximately 275." The residence halls, marked "A" and "B" on the architectural site plan, would be a combination of three, four and five-bedroom suite arrangements. The plan would also include a larger office for the staff of Atwater Commons, laundry facilities and a large study room. While the basic design for the residence halls are more or less finalized, Project Manager of Facilities Planning Tom McGinn stressed that the design of the dining hall – represented in the model by the oval structure on the far right – might change pending feedback from other sources, among them students, faculty and administrators. The architect commissioned to design the expanded commons is James Timberlake of the Philadelphia-based firm KieranTimberlake Associates. Dean of Atwater Commons Scott Barnicle mentioned that, "the architect is phenomenal at listening to students and integrating their ideas."

Photos right and below: Graphic representations of the inside of the renovated Nelson Arena. The climbing wall is plainly visible on the mezzanine, with wooden beams placed directly above it. The structure will be lit naturally via a skylight.







Plans to transform Nelson Arena into a multi-purpose intramural athletic facility are nearing completion, and the project now hinges on the success of fundraising efforts. According to a Facilities Planning update, "[the] major components of the renovation are a new sport floor, lined for a variety of indoor sports, a skylight that will greatly improve the space through the addition of natural light and new climbing wall (shown on the mezzanine)." Nelson Arena, which was once part of an Air Force base in Rome, N.Y., was shipped to Middlebury and reassembled on campus in 1949. — **Compiled by Tim McCahill and Devin Zatorski**
News Editors

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Local women's hockey face off against cancer

By Margaret Aycock
Staff Writer

The Middlebury Otters, a local women's hockey team with teammates ranging in age from 25 to 56, hosted the second annual "Face Off Against Breast Cancer" at the Middlebury Memorial Sports Center last Saturday, Jan. 13.

The success of the 2001 "Face Off Against Breast Cancer" tournament helped highlight the growing interest and participation in women's hockey.

The tournament included six teams from around the state. Each team played two games during the day and then a playoff game in the evening to determine the final standings.

Played to raise funds for The Breast Cancer Network (BCN), a volunteer organization that gives help to women living with breast cancer, the tournament raised over $3,000.

Linda Revell, a BCN volunteer, describes it as a "simple, nonbeaureaucratic organization that picks up and fills in the gaps where other forms of assistance drop off." Founded in 1992, BCN directs its efforts towards service, research and advocacy.

One service of the network is to provide small grants to women with cancer to help cover expenses that might be left uncovered by health insurance

The network also works to help support research through such organizations as the Vermont Cancer Center. BCN exists through donations and volunteer work, and this year's tournament more than doubled the amount it raised last year.

Eric Skovsted

The Middlebury Otters hosted a tournament to benefit breast cancer at the Middlebury Memorial Sports Center.

In addition to the games, Saturday's tournament featured guest speaker Patti O'Brien, a physician and cancer survivor. Local massage therapists also donated their time and gave massages to players in exchange for donations to BCN.

In their first game of the day, the Otters suffered a 4-1 loss to Stowe, a team that had already had a chance to warm-up as they played in an earlier contest. The lone Middlebury goal was scored by Liz Cronin, a breast cancer survivor and the inspiration for the team to dedicate their tournament to raising funds for The Breast Cancer Network.

The second game was a close 1-0 contest between the Otters and eventual tournament winner Upper Valley (from the Norwich/Hanover area), as it remained scoreless until late in the third period when Upper Valley got a breakaway and scored.

This placed Middlebury in the fifth-sixth place playoff game in the evening, which they won, giving them a fifth place overall finish.

(see Otters, page 7)

STATE shorts

By Ashley Elpern
Local News Editor

Female wrestler tops competition

Courtney Martell, a freshman at Mount Abraham Union High School earned her place in Vermont history on Dec. 30, 2000, when she became the first girl in state history to win a weight division at a varsity wrestling tournament. Martell has been wrestling since the age of six and for eight years has been wrestling boys who do not take her seriously. "Sometimes when I wrestle, they're like, 'It's easy, I can beat a girl,'" Martell told *The Burlington Free Press*. "It just makes me want to go out 10 times more and beat them." Since her first victory, Martell has compiled a record of 10 wins and one loss, putting her within reach of the top of her division. Mount Abraham wrestling coach Bobby Coleman attributed Martell's success to her "spirit and tenacity," according to *The Free Press*. "It takes her a long way," said Coleman. "Even on the junior-high level she was a very mature person." Coleman said Martell follows the same training regimen as her male teammates in sprints, stair climbing, push-ups and daily matches, as well as sticking to a high-carbohydrate, low-fat diet. He noted that she could eventually become the first girl in Vermont to finish in the top three in her class and advance to the New England championships.

Vermonters continue unhealthy life choices

The recently unveiled state health survey found that half of Vermonters are overweight, one-quarter smoke and three-quarters fail to exercise regularly. Health officials insist that the statistics show room for improvement, said *The Rutland Herald*. "With the beginning of the New Year, it's a good time to think about making positive changes," said Health Commissioner Jan Carney. "We'd like to cut that smoking rate in half, get more people exercising and put a stop to problem drinking, he told *The Herald*. In specific statistics, 22 percent of Vermonters smoke, 52 percent are overweight, 17 percent binge drink and only 26 percent exercise regularly. Carney encourages regular physical activity and a healthy diet that includes five servings of fruit and vegetables a day, as well as reducing smoking and alcohol consumption. Statistics were gathered from phone interviews with 6,163 Vermonters over the age of 18 in 1998 and 1999, as well as over 9,000 high school students in 1999. About 29 percent of youths surveyed reported binge drinking in the past month. Binge drinking is defined as five or more drinks for a man and four or more for a woman in one sitting. There have been some improvements in health statistics, however. The smoking rate is down 2 percent from 24 percent in 1997. In 1998, 25 percent of Vermonters excercised regularly, compared to 15 percent in 1997.

New look to Burlington mall in the works

The Burlington Town Center mall on Church Street is undergoing a comprehensive renovation and expansion project. Shoppers will soon see straightened corridors, skylights, a foyer with a fireplace and 13 new stores.The total cost of the project, including refinancing of the existing mortgage, is about $50.5 million. Mall owner Kevin F. Donohoe told *The Burlington Free Press* on Jan. 11 that the project should be completed by Aug. 1, after a year of delays. There have been four delays in construction since 1999. Even with the annoucement in May 2000 that financing was in order to begin construction and that many stores had made commitments, nothing happened. In December, Kravco Company, a huge Pennsylvania mall developer, agreed to become a partner in the mall, infusing several million dollars into the project. Donohoe released the names of 13 stores, seven of which will more in by April and the rest by August. The most well known are J. Crew, Starbucks, Williams Sonoma, Limited Too and Abercrombie & Fitch. When renovations are done, Kravco will take over management of the mall, with Donohoe retaining ownership. Kravco will be responsible for filling the rest of the mall, about 35 percent of the total space. The names of 20 new tenants are expected by the summer.

Sources: *The Burlington Free Press* and *The Rutland Herald*

New year brings new legislature, budget

By Ashley Elpern
Local News Editor

As the Vermont State House convened last week, Democratic leaders faced the feeling of being the minority power. With the sweep of positions in the November 2000 election, the Democratic party lost its coveted majority in the State House and now must struggle to promote its powerful state interests.

In creating the legislature, Republican House Speaker Walter Freed of Dorset announced committee assignments supporting bipartisanship and highlighting Republican talent. According to *The Rutland Herald*, Freed placed at least one minority Democrat on each committee.

He also gave his party chairmanships and vice-chairmanships on 12 of the House's 14 committees. This gives the Democrats the smallest leadership seats in 30 years.

"A lot of these committees are split on the issues," Freed told *The Herald* on Jan. 10, 2001. "I think this will make sure the debates happen in committee, and we'll see more of a degree of moderation and balance in the House."

House Minority Leader John Tracy of Burlington disagreed, noting that fewer women would be in leadership positions this year, and maintained that the most powerful committees did not have enough representation by Democrats.

As stated in *The Herald*, all but five of the 62 Democrats in the House served when the Republicans last held the majority.

Not all Democrats see the Republican majority as a hardship. Some anticipate working with the moderate Republicans with whom they created relationships with last year, said *The Herald*.

They share fiscal ideas, working with GOP members on budget and tax issues over the past two years. An alliance also formed on modifying the Act 250 land use proposition.

More fiscally liberal Democrats are afraid that their party's effectiveness will shrink if portions of their party work closely with the Republican majority. "I know of no minority that has succeeded without unity of effort, so we have to be together," Brooks told *The Herald*.

Brooks maintains that it was unity of purpose that helped the Democrats gain the majority 14 years ago and it is the best way for them to get their laws considered and in this legislative session.

In other political news, Gov. Howard Dean announced his largest proposed budget increase in 10 years last Thursday. Dean promised his plan would help bring health costs under control, put the state on a sounder financial footing and provide money for affordable housing, child care, pollution control and rail improvements, said *The Burlington Free Press* on Jan. 12.

Dean outlined his $1.7 million budget, with its five percent increase, at a joint session of the Vermont House and Senate, assuring the legislators that with this increase, the state was in a good position to cope with skyrocketing health care costs. The budget gives no tax cuts to Vermonters, even with the prediction that tax revenues will again exceed state spending by $30 million in this fiscal year.

The Free Press reported that Dean said the budget gives Vermonters something as good as a tax cut. Instead of borrowing money to pay for construction projects, the

(see Dean, page 7)

Project Independence brings vitality and dignity to aging

By Ashley Elpern
Local News Editor

For many adults, growing old often means giving up the freedom to maintain active lifestyles and often necessitates relocation to nursing homes. Project Independence, a portion of the Elderly Services program in Addison County, strives to end this trend by providing comprehensive care in a supportive and lively atmosphere.

Eric Skovsted

Henry Davis, champion ring-tosser at Project Independence, lets loose his final toss during an afternoon game.

History of Project Independence

Founded in 1981, Project Independence began with the a goal to keep elders out of nursing homes and provide care that would allow seniors to remain in their homes or the homes of family members.

It grew out of the Middlebury Counseling Service for the Elderly when it became clear that the organization needed to help families with elderly relatives.

Incorporated as a division of Elderly Services, Project Independence began in the basement of the Methodist Church in Middlebury with six people, and has since grown to serve over 40 people in each morning and afternoon session.

"Project Independence provides elders with nutrition, medical services, personal care and planned activities, anything to keep our members and their families comfortable," said Sylvia Boyea, the morning adult coordinator.

Boyea has been with Project Independence since 1982, beginning her involvement with Middlebury Counseling Service for the Elderly.

"Everything here is a team project," said Boyea. "There are no certain qualifications for our staff, they just have to have a healthy attitude towards aging," she said.

The staff has great talent, ranging from social workers to retired teachers. "The mix of people adds to the quality of care," Boyea stated.

Meals are cooked in the building's kitchen by two employees focusing solely on food preparation. Emphasis is put on providing home-cooked meals, with 130 to 150 served daily. Special meals are prepared for those with restricted diets, and the cooks take pride in serving a variety of meals.

Mission of Project Independence

Almost any senior citizen can spend time at Project Independence. Some have Alzheimer's Disease, diabetes or may just want to spend time with others instead of staying at home.

"Our philosophy is to try to change the way society looks at elders," said Eric Covey, an afternoon adult coordinator also in charge of volunteers. "The center is conducive to promoting respect and a home-like environment. We want our facility (now located next to the Middlebury Inn on Rt. 7) to be the next best thing to a home."

Covey originally worked with the Counseling Service of Addison County. Through his coordination of transportation for the Counseling Service, he became involved with transportation for Project Independence.

Many new members hear about us from their friends who already attend Project Independence. Word of mouth is the best way to gain participants because it shows that we are making an impact on the lives of our member.

—Eric Covey, Coordinator

Project Independence strives to allow senior citizens to maintain their independence and live at home, instead of moving to a nursing home to attain quality care.

"Most people want to stay in their own homes or with their relatives, but this is not always practical," said Covey. "We provide a safe place where they can socialize, eat healthily, get medication and participate in activities while being treated with respect and dignity."

By taking elders during the day, Project Independence allows working family members to keep their relatives at home

"This respite for primary caregivers is important," said Covey. "They worry about the time commitment and although they want their relatives to be well taken care of, around-the-clock care is not often an option."

Between 35 and 45 senior citizens attend each morning and afternoon session, with a few choosng to spend the entire day.

People come to Project Independece in many ways. Doctors suggest it to their patients and the Agency for Aging, which provides advocacy for the elderly, also refers seniors.

"Many new members hear about us from their friends who already attend Project Independence," said Covey. "Word of mouth is the best way to gain participants because it shows that we are making an impact on the lives of our members."

Funding for Project Independence, which has a budget of $1.2 million, comes from a variety of sources. About half comes from state and federal government, as the organization is part of the Department of Aging and Rehabilitation .

"The United Way is a huge help," said Boyea. "It was the only way we could have survived in the early years." Those attending Project Independence pay based on their assets, with over 80 percent receiving scholarships of some kind.

Community members add to quality of care giving

To bring diverse activities to Project Independence, the talents of the community are often brought in for group entertainment. "We love music, so I am always looking for potential performers to play for our members," said Covey.

Devin Arrington '00.5 frequenlty entertains those at Project Independence with his violin. Many a cappella groups from Middlebury College also perform frequently

Twenty-four Middlebury students volunteered at Project Independence this fall. Eight of them were part of Assistant Professor of Biology David Parfitt's first-year seminar, which had a service learning component.

During the First-Year Orientation's Volunteer Preview, many students visited with members of Project Independece, with some of them continuing to volunteer throughout the year.

"Each special event brings permanent volunteers to Project Independence," said Covey. "We always try to have a booth at the volunteer fairs at the College to gain more volunteers. They really add vitality to our organization."

Project Independence is now raising funds to build a $1.5 million facility on a five-acre parcel of land near the Swift House. A $700,000 federal grant for research allows that portion from the current budget to be set aside for the construction.

The building will be a cross between a mansion and a farm house and the interior will continue to promote the atmosphere of home that Project Independence focuses so strongly on in all aspects of care.

Otters thrive in new playing venue

(continued from page 6)

The Middlebury Otters evolved from a group of women who got together to play pond hockey into a formalized team about four years ago. The players vary in experience from those who grew up playing hockey to those who took the sport up in their 40s.

Regardless of when in their lives they began playing, one common thread among the players is that they got involved in hockey because others in their families play.

Coached by volunteers and sponsored by local businesses, the Otters have become adept at playing together and their wins include last year's end of season tournament held at Stowe, Vt.

With a schedule that runs from October through late March, each week the Otters play a game and hold one or two practices for a total of about 20 games over the season.

Games include home and away matches against teams from around Vermont and a trip to Montreal to play a Canadian team.

In addition to weekly games and practices, there are Thursday night pickup games open to all women, not just those on the Otters roster.

According to Otter team member Barbara Marlow, the building and renovation of the Memorial Sports Center's Howard E. Brush Arena has been an important factor in the formalization of the team.

One advantage of the arena is that it allows practices to be scheduled regardless of the weather. Previously the team had had to use outdoor ice surfaces. This year's renovations to the arena included the installation of the boards and benches donated from Middlebury College's Nelson Arena.

The success of the 2001 "Face Off Against Breast Cancer" tournament helped highlight the growing interest and participation in women's hockey, as the tournament raised more than twice the donations as it did in its first year. The Otters look forward to continued success in the rest of their season and in future tournaments.

Dean unveils increased state tax on cigarettes

(continued from page 6)

state will use $24 million of the projected surplus and pay in cash for construction instead to taking out loans. This will lower debt and mean less tax pressure

With his budget increase, Dean announced that he wants to raise Vermont's tax on cigarettes by 67 cents to $1.11 a pack. He pitched the plan as a deterrent to young smokers and as a way of raising money to keep down health care costs, said *The Free Press* on Jan. 9.

Dean focused on the benefits to employers and employees, because the additional money would go towards quelling the rising health care costs by increasing state reimbursements to hospitals and doctors for low-income patients covered by Medicaid.

The state expects the tax increase to raise an extra $25 million to $32 million a year, all of which would be used to be paid toward Medicaid costs. Last year, Vermont earned $25 million, using most of the money for anti-smoking advertisements.

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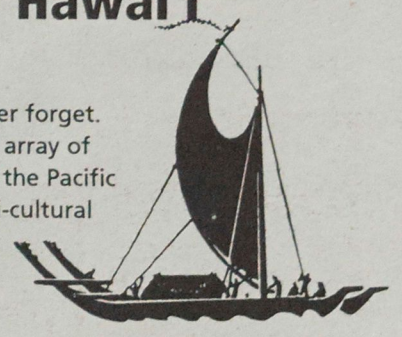

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Editorial

Sticking to standards

Middlebury has a reputation for strong athletics. The College's teams have repeatedly ranked at the top of the standings both regionally and nationally. There is no doubt that Middlebury's athletes have done their part to put the College on the map.

However, the fact that Middlebury is recognized as having one of the best Division III athletic departments in the country does not make it a "jock-magnet." Middlebury is also known, and perhaps more so, for its stringent academics, comprehensive foreign language program, well-published English department and for the special breed of students who choose to participate in an isolated and intense learning environment tucked away in the shadows of the Vermont landscape.

In an article entitled, "Gaining Admission: Athletes Win Preference," that appeared in the Education Life section of *The New York Times* Jan. 7, 2001 edition the author claims that the admissions directors at Middlebury and other small colleges of the same caliber, are lowering their academic standards in a quest to fill pre-designated spaces with recruited athletes. While certain premises of the article may be true – Middlebury's Dean of Enrollment agrees that athletes receive special consideration in the admission process at highly selective schools – the article errs in misrepresenting Middlebury College and one of its students.

Lowering standards and offering special consideration represent two different processes. Middlebury prides itself on its well-rounded student body. There is a wealth of artists, musicians, athletes, writers, scientists and leaders at Middlebury who all have one thing in common – an unusually strong academic ability. The admissions office at Middlebury does not seek out athletes who would play Division I and lure them away from big schools by dangling the prospects of an elite diploma. Instead, the College searches for scholar-athletes who can further the diversity of the College community. The fact remains that, despite the article's claims, the statistics of each year's incoming class are getting increasingly competitive. Middlebury is not lowering standards by setting aside spaces for athletes, it is simply assuring, as it does for minority students and international students, as well as artists and scientists, that the College will continue to represent all interests.

In *The Times* article Middlebury was used unfairly as a scapegoat for a problem that may or may not be happening on a larger level within small colleges. A Middlebury student and coach were led into misrepresenting themselves, and a former admissions director was asked to comment on issues about which he is no longer familiar. In the process, the College was charged with engaging in practices that could potentially lower both the reputation and the standards of the institution.

The College is currently engaged in a massive development process. The sciences recently received the incredible facilities of Bicentennial Hall; construction and plans are underway for new residence halls; a new library and new center for the humanities will be built in the next few years; and soon the athletic department will also receive a facelift. At the same time, discussions are taking place about new student centers, multi-faith centers and diversity programs. Middlebury is not a college steered by its athletic department.

Despite the misrepresentations, *The Times* article should not be completely ignored. The College should take away from this incident an awareness that there may be a growing problem with the admissions process that is spreading on an institutional scale. Pressures are increasing and schools are being forced to make more decisions based on money and reputation. In the face of a changing market, Middlebury should be completely forthcoming about its selection processes and continue to work towards a well-rounded student body. Middlebury must continue its commitment to diverse student involvement without ever lowering its standards to do so.

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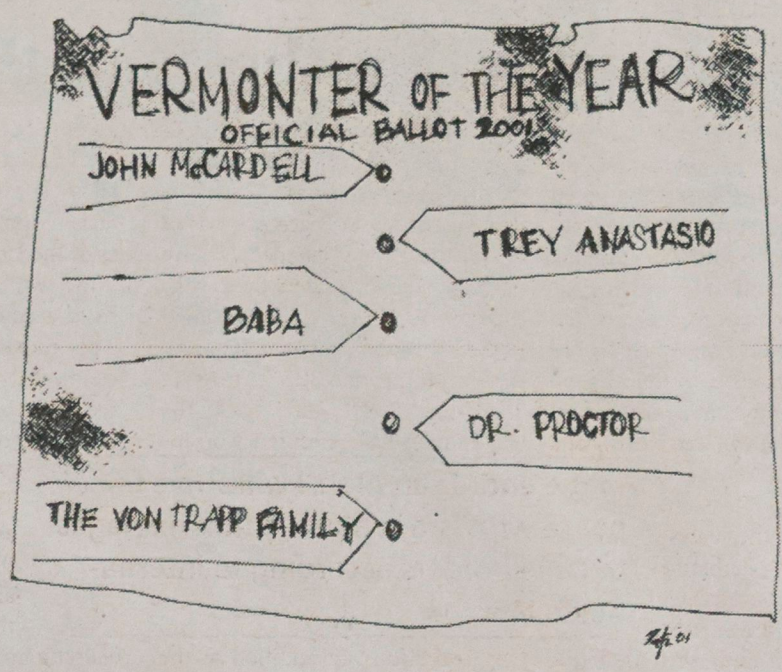

McCardell sweeps Vermonter of the Year
"McCardell ecstatic, Baba demands recount"

By Pete Park

-Michael D. Schoenfeld-

Athletics on the defensive

A number of people have asked us to comment on Edward Fiske's recent article in the *New York Sunday Times* – "Gaining Admission: Athletes Win Preference" (Jan. 7, 2001 – Education Life Section). The article examines the treatment of recruited athletes in the admission process of elite liberal arts colleges, including Middlebury, Amherst and Williams. At the heart of the article is a fundamental question: are schools like Middlebury overemphasizing success in sports at the expense of the educational mission of the College?

The College catalog has several references to our mission, including the following; "Middlebury wants those who give of themselves in academic study, in the arts, in the pursuit of leadership, in athletics, and in social service." (Page 7). Accordingly, we give special consideration to students with outstanding abilities in athletics during the admission process, just as we seek out students with extra curricular talents in the arts, student government, newspaper and yearbook editing, and community service. We also go out of our way to find students from different states, countries, religions and ethnic backgrounds. In short, our goal is to assemble a class with diverse and exceptional talents and interests in order to pursue excellence in everything we do.

Seven years ago the Presidents of the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) adopted a policy that allowed our qualified sport's teams to advance to NCAA Division III post-season play. It quickly became apparent that NESCAC, the strongest group of schools academically, also has the strongest sports teams in Division III. Middlebury alone has won 11 national championships in the last seven years, including this fall's championship in women's cross country running. There is no question that athletic recruitment plays a significant role in this success.

The role of athletics at Middlebury and the recruitment of student-athletes continue to be topics we monitor closely. The NESCAC presidents regularly collect data on the high school qualifications and the subsequent college academic performance of recruited athletes. Each class we have admitted over the last six years, including recruited athletes, has been stronger academically as measured by standardized test results and class rank in high school. We have also increased the ethnic diversity of our student body at the same time. The line at the Admission's Office has never been longer, and we have just established our fifth record in admissions in the last six years, with over 5300 students applying for 550 spots in the fall class.

In short, our goal is to assemble a class with diverse and exceptional talents and interests in order to pursue excellence in everything we do.

While we accept the premise of Fiske's article — that athletes receive special consideration in the admission process at highly selective schools — we feel it is important to point out two misleading references to Middlebury College. First, Rick Dalton is quoted about the test scores of recruited football athletes at Middlebury. Rick would be the first to admit that SAT verbal test scores have been re-centered since he left our admissions office over a decade ago, and that he is not up-to-date with our current approach to athletic recruiting.

More significantly, we are strongly disappointed that Matt Skoglund and Bill Beaney were mislead as to the purpose of Fiske's interviews at Middlebury. Mr. Fiske indicated to Bill and Matt that he intended to write a story that positively portrayed student-athletes with Division I playing talent who chose competitive Division III programs for academic reasons. We are confident that Matt represented Middlebury well in his one-hour interview with Mr. Fiske. We regret that Matt, an outstanding young man and Dean's List student the last two semesters, was characterized simplistically as a student who is not qualified to be at Middlebury College. This is an injustice to Matt, and we want the Middlebury community to know that nothing could be further from the truth.

There is likely to be more discussion about the role of athletics at schools like Middlebury College. William Bowen's and James Shulman's provocative new book, The Game of Life: College Sports and Educational Values, examines this question in detail. Every admission decision we make at Middlebury College is important in reaffirming our purpose, and we should never be afraid to reexamine our mission as a liberal arts college. We should do this, of course, based on our own data that looks at all of the students we admit to our college.

Michael Schoenfeld is Dean of Enrollment Planning at Middlebury College

Letters to the Editor Policy

The Campus welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 1000 words or less. Submit works to Campus@Middlebury.edu, Drawer 30 or directly to the Opinions Editors.

The Campus retains the right to edit all submissions.

-Hosam Mekdad '03-

Understanding the Middle East

In the December 6 issue of *The Middlebury Campus*, Mr. Amichai Kilchevsky presented a pessimistic and misleading account of the conflict between the Palestinians and the Israelis. It is indeed ironic that an article written in the name of diminished hatred leaves the reader with the impression that the Palestinians are at best fanatics and at worst unworthy of a homeland of their own. According to Kilchevsky, the Palestinians are to be blame for the bloodshed, notwithstanding the fact that it is they who are being killed - and on their own land as well.

One cannot but feel pain and sadness for the innocent civilians - Jews and Arabs - who have been killed in the past few months. Yet it is disturbing to notice that nowhere in the article does Mr. Kilchevsky mention any of the dead Palestinian civilians. Needless to say the toll of Palestinian victims is much higher than that of the Israelis. That Mr. Kilchevsky ignored the Palestinian deaths shows that his perspective is neither balanced nor factual. I would like to clear up some of his more glaring inconsistencies.

Since the Oslo Peace Accords of 1993, the Palestinian people have strongly demonstrated their willingness to regain their occupied state through diplomatic and peaceful means. But instead of regaining their rights back, the Palestinian have endured worsening conditions. In addition to the Israeli abuse of their most basic human rights, the Palestinian people came under the iron fist of Yaser Arafat. In that regard, Mr. Kilchevsky is right. Yes, Arafat "virtually lost control over his people," but he did so a long time ago because his chosen path of peace brought nothing but more unfulfilled promises from the Israelis and more misery and humiliation to his people. The anger and the frustration that developed within the Palestinian people translated itself into the demonstrations that we have been witnessing.

In the end, as an Arab, I will strive for peace with Israel, a peace that manages to have borders according to international law.

Unfortunately, Mr. Kilchevsky adopted much of the claims that usually come from the press releases of the Israeli government and its army, which claim to give "first hand accounts" about the conflict. The most outrageous of these claims is that Palestinians purposefully put their children in the line of Israeli fire so that they may become "shaheeds" or martyrs. That is absolutely false, and it is in fact just one of the Israeli army's illogical and racist attempts to justify its senseless killing of Palestinian youth. No Palestinian father or mother wishes for their child to die. These youths do not "just throw rocks" for a thrill, and no one opens up his chest to the Israeli bullets for the fun of it. They are fighting for their freedom and independence, the same way Americans fought and died for it two centuries ago, except the Palestinians are doing it with stones. It is totally outrageous how in Mr. Kilchevsky's article, the victims are the ones who are being blamed, and the killers are the ones that deserve our sympathy.

The Israeli state remains the only nation on earth without declared borders, a flagrant and belligerent reminder for the Arab states around it that the appetite of the Israeli Defense Army, to use the official jargon, is insatiable. One is never sure what Israel wants: Biblical Israel? Strategically defensible borders? or the rivers and their sources? Amidst the sea of those Jew-hating Arabs should they not occupy more land to defend themselves? A buffer zone here and a buffer zone there? One-tenth of Lebanon (the euphemistic "security zone") was necessary for Israeli defense or so we were told for the last 20 years. Yet overnight it ceased to be so. The Arabs (Hizbullah this time) did not come rushing over the border armed with their undemocratic methods after the Israeli army withdrew; the drums of war are not beating across southern Lebanon; the land was left a waste land, filled with millions of mines, and lest anybody mistake the good intentions of Israel - the "democratic" Israel – let it be known that Israel adamantly refused to give the UN a map of the mine fields.

Israel is in the height of its power, its military is insurmountable, its economy is magnificent, and let me say this in a whisper, it is the only nuclear power in the region. Yet Israel feels and acts as if it is about to be dismantled. When will Israel feel safe? How many hectares more for it to feel safe? We would be kidding ourselves if we thought that the defeated, weak, and disjointed Arabs wanted anything but peace. The Arabs have made a strategic decision: they want peace. It is the Israeli public who has to decide. You can't have occupation and have peace. You cannot have a nation dispossessed, its members under military occupation, with no dignity and no rights, and pretend that things can be normal.

(see Peace, page 10)

Letter to the Editor

UNICEF Campus Group: An invitation to all

To the Editor:

"Children are all foreigners." —Ralph Waldo Emerson.

Today the most vulnerable and afflicted community in the world is its children. Some 170 million remain underfed. One out of 10 is disabled in one way or another. More than 10 million continue to be traumatized with violence. five-hundred thousand died of AIDS last year. Thirty-thousand children die every day because of preventable diseases; that is one child for every two breaths we take. Yet, there is hope for all of them, and so for all of us.

The volunteer organization of UNICEF is earnestly working to protect the children of the world. Its field workers design and implement comprehensive care programs with the cooperation of local governments in more than 160 countries. Some of these programs will educate women about birth control and infant health. Some will channel local efforts toward primary and elementary education. Others will provide funds to build shelters for refugee children and to vaccinate them against preventable diseases. Still others will improve hospital facilities for AIDS-infected children and mothers. These programs will work a thousand ways, but if successful they will yield the same result: they will save generations. UNICEF's more than five decades of spirited efforts have resulted in the following:

The under-five mortality rate has been cut in half, from 216 to 100 deaths per 1000 lives.

The average number of births per woman has reduced from 6.0 to 3.5.

The average life expectancy around the world has increased from 47 to 61 years.

Where is our contribution to these numbers? I don't know. Personally, I am stunned at the generous effort, at the behemoth problem. For us, to be part of the solution means to share the work. And that is why an initiative is being taken to form a UNICEF Campus Group at Middlebury. UNICEF Campus Groups is a growing grassroots campus movement that supports UNICEF in its endeavor to give the world's children a brighter future by funding sustainable, field-based programs that prevent death and disease among children under five. Presently such groups are functioning at large schools including Brown University, New York University and Universities of Pennsylvania and Georgia. Our group will be one of the first few of its kind at a liberal arts college. Our main objectives will be to raise funds for, increase awareness about, and advocate UNICEF's many activities. I keenly invite everyone to attend our first meeting in Mitchell Green Lounge on Sunday, Jan. 21 from 9-10 p.m. At the meeting, we will discuss the scope of our group and our plan for the future. Let us all be there in a goodwill gesture to make the estranged children of the world feel at home. Contact me for information, concerns, and excuses at extension 4303 or e-mail at Masood@middlebury.edu

—Syed Masood, UNICEF Campus Group

Pocketbook Politics:

-Brian Ashley '04-

A Critical Beginning:

Goals and challenges of a Bush Presidency

As the streets of Washington D.C. are swept clean in preparation for the inauguration of our beloved George Bush, the president elect himself has a few items to tidy-up before he can pick out the new rugs and wood trim for the oval office. First of all, Bush needs to provide more of a support structure for his cabinet (not the kind made of wood, mind you) picks. It appears as though after making his selections, Bush simply threw his nominees to the lions. Even as Bush promotes the idea of loyalty within his administration and cabinet, he appears to have left Linda Chavez, nominee for Secretary of Labor, out among the wolves. I have heard little direct support for Chavez from Bush and his team. It is not the nominee's job to support his or her nomination. Bush threw her into this position, and he should have the chutzpah to get her through it. After a good fight and some decent honesty, Chavez is left with a political scandal and no Cabinet position. It appears as though the nation's liberal democrats are rewarding human kindness (Chavez admitted to housing an illegal alien in her house at one point) with alienation from governmental involvement. The democrats of this country find illegal immigration acceptable, but as soon as anyone starts giving these illegal aliens a helping hand, they cry wolf and circle the wagons. In response to this liberal mentality, Bush needs to get his act together and salvage what's left of Ashcroft's bid for Attorney General. Such stunts as sending the most junior ranking Bush press aid to accompany Chavez to a news conference is just unacceptable. If Bush is going to stand any chance of hanging onto his Cabinet selections, he needs to dig in and fight.

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On top of the strain of democratic mudslinging, Bush and his team will have a difficult time convincing the country that the economic slowdown is not his fault. Just as Clinton claimed the success of Reagan's economic policy as his own, Bush may have to explain to the country that the present slowdown is not his fault, but instead the result of eight years without a republican in the white house. This feat will be a challenge because of the way that Bush gained the presidency (very narrowly). It was easy to love Clinton (especially for sheep-minded democrats) because he was just such a crowd-pleaser. For that reason, he received much of the credit for our 10 years of economic growth. The tough job in front of Bush is to convince the nation that Reaganomics is a good thing and that, given a few solid years with a republican, this country can avoid a Clintonian economic backlash.

Beyond our petty opinions about economic greatness between parties, Bush needs to get to work with congress on a more important matter. Right now, the Euro, the brainchild of American and European economists alike, is on the rebound. However it still has quite a journey after its dismal starting run of an almost 20 U.S. cent drop in value between last January and December. While it has gained much ground in the past two months (hopefully a prediction of the world economy's faith in a Bush economic policy), it has quite a distance to go before it can reverse the damage its slippage already caused. Because the Euro's low value made outside-E.U. currencies appear so appealing to E.U. businesses, a yearlong trend developed in which businesses in countries such as France and Italy began to favor business from outside the E.U. The idea of the Euro was the opposite. It was designed to unite the E.U.'s 11 countries in an economic bond that strengthened them both as individuals and as a whole in the world economy. Instead, the Euro's dismal performance has further unhinged the E.U. and it is up to both the U.S. and Europe to fix this problem. A strong Euro price rebound could be an excellent jumpstart to Bush's presidency.

Finally, Bush really needs to get his positions on issues cemented so that he doesn't look like a poll-reacting Clintonian. He needs to settle his position on oil and energy concerns and get his projects in motion. A strong and immediate push for further exploration of the U.S.'s oil production capabilities could go a long way towards reducing foreign oil costs to the U.S. A good, strong push towards increased U.S. oil industries is exactly what we need to scare the present cartels into lowering their prices and increasing shipments. God knows it is a much better solution than tapping into and depleting our Strategic Petroleum Reserves (thanks but no thanks, Mr. Clinton). With some hard work and immediate action, Bush could turn out to be and excellent president. And if not, just remember that it could be worse, we could be stuck with Gore.

-Ben LaBolt '03-

Bush: cabinet nominations anything but compassionate

The Bush Cabinet has not come as a total surprise to most Americans, except for those who were convinced that compassionate conservatism meant something more than compassion for corporate America. In not supporting affirmative action or quotas, Bush happened to stumble across a slew of minorities who were the "best candidates for the job." While Linda Chavez was ousted from being Secretary of Labor for being a bit too compassionate with illegal immigrants, Mel Martinez, Condoleezza Rice, Colin Powell, and Rod Paige should be approved to their respective positions as Secretary of HUD, National Security Advisor, and Secretaries of State and Education.

Women are filling posts across the board, most notably Gale Norton as Secretary of the Interior and Christine Whitman as head of the EPA. President-Elect Bush managed to find two women who would strip the earth eternally for a few logs and jobs to guide his impeccable environmental policy.

And he really fulfilled that promise to appoint a Democrat to a post – secretary of transportation, that is. By appointing a Democrat to an office whose job is almost completely fulfilled by the states, he might as well have appointed his token of bipartisanship to clean up his dog's excrement from the White House lawn. Transportation did not appear on any polls as a salient concern for voters in this election; in fact, Gallup hung up on any households who thought this was more important than foreign policy or economic concerns.

The unamity is in ideology—staunch conservatives whose anti-labor, anti-environment, and anti-civil liberties stances leave a bit of the transparent compassion from the campaign to be desired.

The clearest observation people beyond the Beltway have made is that W. has appointed many officials from his father's administration – Andrew Card, Mary Matalin, Colin Powell, and Dick Cheney. A little bit more surprising is to find that a substantial portion of his top advisors were in the Ford Administration. Donald Rumsfeld is actually revisiting the position of Secretary of Defense after a quarter century break, Cheney was Ford's Chief of Staff, and Paul O'Neill will be punching numbers as Secretary of Treasury, a clear stepping stone from his job years ago as Ford's deputy budget director. Ford was not one of the most successful Presidents and was never elected on his own – but Bush made sure to resurrect his administration because the nation was worried they were dead by now and needed reassurance. Take Back Vermonters will rejoice that we indeed have been taken back, all the way to 1975.

Many have noted that Ari Fleischer '82 has been the spokesperson for the Bush-Cheney Transition and will be Bush's Press Secretary. Fleischer was a New Yorker with Democratic parents who described in *The Austin Chronicle* his time at Middlebury as a life-changing experience which opened him to the importance of Star Wars and Reagonomics. While the fact that Fleischer is a New York Republican Jew is supposed to send a message to the nation, it sends a more frightening message to Middlebury students about their future. In 20 years, we will all be supporting a reactionary administration so that we get that pesky capital gains tax sliced in half.

The final category of appointment is senators who were too conservative to get themselves elected. Spencer Abraham has been appointed Secretary of Energy after he failed to win re-election in Michigan, and John Ashcroft as Attorney General, who for all intents and purposes was defeated by a dead man, whom he assailed after he was trounced on election night.

In appointing Ashcroft, Bush sent up red flags everywhere but Pat Robinson's headquarters in Virginia Beach. One might question whether the man who declared that "Jesus is America's king" to the progressive students at Bob Jones University, fiercely opposed the appointment of black and homosexual federal judges, and regularly attends a church which does not allow dancing, will legally protect the civil rights of all Americans. Ashcroft would also have control over any intergovernmental prosecution over federal employees, and he could create the Task Force to Eliminate Democrats if he wanted to, making up for his unsuccessful bid to oust President Clinton. Ashcroft poses the most significant threat to modern progression in the Bush Administration.

Bush's cabinet shows both diversity and unanimity, with an ethnically and gender-based diversity on the one hand, and a mix between his father's and President Ford's appointments on the other. The unanimity is in ideology – staunch conservatives whose anti-labor, anti-environment, and anti-civil liberties stances leave a bit of the transparent compassion from the campaign to be desired.

Peace hopes for the Middle East

(continued from page 7)

Israel, however one tries hard to deny it, is an occupying state. Its army harasses, kills, and maims another people - people that has said enough is enough and is willing to die and not be occupied anymore. This is the story that we find hard to tell. There are ironies, and the bitterest of ironies are those that are unexpected. Tell me ladies and gentlemen how does Israel manage to occupy another nation democratically? Who is occupying whom? Or did I dare ask a question the clever have managed to leave unasked? After all, the argument for justifying Israel's aggression (or should I say acts of defense) runs like this: since Israel is a state that treats its Jewish citizens with justice and equality, it is allowed to occupy land from the undemocratic Arabs. Yes it is time for historic decisions, and Israel has to decide if it wants peace or more land. The Arabs have decided for peace, but there is little for them to give except the most precious of all: neighborly acceptance of Israel as an integral part of the new Middle East. Their condition has always been clear: withdrawal from the land occupied in the 1967 war.

The security of Israel is in the end a political security. Israel can grow stronger, bigger, and wider, but it will never manage to change one fact: it is situated in the heart of the Arab world. Its security rests mainly on its acceptance by its neighbors, as unsavory as this reality is to most Zionists who thought that a powerful state is enough. Yet Israel right now is so powerful, the Arabs so weak, that the easiest way out of this conundrum is hard to swallow. Why give land when you can really keep it and no one will dare say a word?

Mr. Kilchevsky's article also claims that unlike Arab extremists, the Israeli ones do not kill innocents. But with hundreds of innocent Palestinians killed in a few months, the Israeli army would put any extremist to shame. The numbers of killed Palestinians within the past few months largely exceed those of the Israeli civilians who have died due to Palestinian terrorist attacks in the last five years. That is of course not to count those who were killed by the Israeli army in Lebanon. In 1996, in the Biblical village of Qana, almost 102 Lebanese civilians were killed by the Israeli army in one day. In addition to the Israeli army, names like Baruch Goldstein, who murdered 29 Palestinians in a shooting rampage, still ring in our ears. Similarly, as Baruch Goldstein does not represent the mainstream Israelis, neither do those radical Palestinian groups represent the Palestinian cause.

Somehow the willingness of the Palestinian people to die for their land has made a mockery of all weapons including nuclear weapons, bright and swift as they are. After all, as Mr. Kilchevsky so irritably keeps reminding us, they are kids throwing stones. In the end, as an Arab, I will strive for peace with Israel, a peace that manages to have borders according to international law. A peace where Arabs are treated with the same dignity as their Israeli counterpart.

A Little Taste of Reality

-Lisa Engelstein '01 and Ruth Howell '01-

Chew On This:

The 50 most widely spoken languages in the world

Rank	Language	Population	Rank	Language	Population
1.	Chinese, Mandarin	885.0	26.	Ukrainian	41.0
2.	Spanish	332.0	27.	Italian	37.0
3..	English	322.0	28.	Chinese, Xiang	36.0
4.	Bengali	189.0	29.	Malayalam	34.0
5.	Hindi	182.0	30.	Chinese, Hakka	34.0
6.	Portuguese	170.0	31.	Kannada	33.7
7.	Russian	170.0	32.	Oriya	31.0
8.	Japanese	125.0	33.	Panjabi, Western	30.0
9.	German, Standard	98.0	34.	Sunda	27.0
10.	Chinese, Wu	77.2	35.	Panjabi, Eastern	26.0
11.	Javanese	75.5	36.	Romanian	26.0
12.	Korean	75.0	37.	Bhojpuri	25.0
13.	French	72.0	38.	Azerbaijani, South	24.4
14.	Vietnamese	67.7	39.	Farsi, Western	24.3
15.	Telugu	66.4	40.	Maithili	24.3
16.	Chinese, Yue(Cantonese)	66.0	41.	Hausa	24.2
17.	Marathi	64.8	42.	Arabic, Algerian	22.4
18.	Tamil	63.1	43.	Burmese	22.0
19.	Turkish	59.0	44.	Serbo-Croatian	21.0
20.	Urdu	58.0	45.	Chinese, Gan	20.6
21.	Chinese, Min Nan	49.0	46.	Awadhi	20.5
22.	Chinese, Jinyu	45.0	47.	Thai	20.0
23.	Gujarati	44.0	48.	Dutch	20.0
24.	Polish	44.0	49.	Yoruba	20.0
25.	Arabic, Egyptian	42.5	50.	Sindhi	19.7

Our Digestion:

Doesn't it always seem as if everyone speaks English, even when you go abroad? But English is only the third most commonly spoken language! Chinese is spoken by more than two times as many people as Spanish, the second most common language. Even though China is the most populated country, this is still surprising considering the rise of English as the lingua franca, necessary for all political and economic interactions. These statistics, however, can be partially explained because they only represent people's first language. The plateauing of the population in China and the necessity to speak English may cause these numbers to alter in the next decade. This change may manifest itself in the ongoing population explosion in India. Already so many of the top 50 languages are native to India.

What is the fate of all these languages given the necessity of a global language, namely English, in this increasingly smaller world? Languages embody characteristics of a culture which may be lost if a language dies. The death of languages not only results in a loss of words, it denies insights into a particular culture. Because many Americans are only exposed to English, they only understand and experience American culture first-hand. Although we learn about other cultures through means other than language, our knowledge of these cultures is limited due to a language barrier. We celebrate sharing among cultures, yet we must be aware of the existing limiations when communicating among different groups.

-Michael Stahler '03.5-

Constitution: common link to U.S. past and Midd future

In 1787, the United States Constitution was created, establishing the United States government. Two hundred fourteen years later, members of Brainerd Commons have been working diligently behind the scenes to create a similar document.

Although Brainerd is not nearly as significant or as powerful as the United States, it is interesting that there are several similarities and benefits between both documents.

The Brainerd Common's Constitution is unprecedented—no other commons at Middlebury has an operating document like this. It is much like its U.S. counterpart in that it formally organizes a system of government with somewhat distinct branches of government—an Independent Judicial Board and a quasi-Parliamentary body. Beyond that, the document goes on to formally establish the entire infrastructure of the commons from literally the top-down. This is no easy task.

It states the purpose of the Faculty Heads, the Dean, the CRA's, and even the Coordinator. Currently Brainerd has been, at least from my point of view, operating similar to other commons. For example, the Dean, Joi Smith, has similar responsibilities to other commons' Deans and the Coordinator, Karin Hall, resembles her counterparts in other commons offices. But 20 years down the road Brainerd will be operating under different individuals and Middlebury College will be different as well (hey, maybe 'Midd-town' will finally exist), but Brainerd will still be operating just as it does today thanks to our Constitution.

> I find comfort in knowing that issues such as residential concerns, event planning, funding and common's policy will be decided by the common's council who are students elected by their peers as opposed to the administration.

This is key. While other commons are investing their time in just planning next semester's activities, Brainerd is mapping out its future and a legacy of stability.

That is not to say that Brainerd has no fun activities, we are still planning many great social events that will take place in the coming weeks and months, but we are doing so in an orderly and democratic fashion thanks to the constitution (which has been in use unofficially until it is formally ratified). Without it, Brainerd would not exist or operate as efficiently.

Many of the people here have been asking me and others "why a constitution and why a government?" According to Thomas Hobbes, government, in its purest form, exists as a "social contract" with individuals exchanging personal freedoms for security and stability. In a sense, Brainerd's Constitution is a contract between the commons officials and the residents guaranteeing stability and a student-centered service. It holds the officials, both elected students and appointed officials, accountable to all Brainerd students.

The members of Brainerd are the big winners. Other commons are operating without a constitution and are getting things done. However, they may not be operating as efficiently or effectively as possible and they have no formal set of rules and standards that may make operations seem unpredictable or confusing. I feel that this document will make people more confident in the governance of Brainerd and give them clear expectations of how things operate.

Many other things make this document effective. I enjoy the simple fact that one does not need to be a constitutional scholar or an attorney to understand it.

While many historians seem to agree that the U.S. Constitution was created rather covertly by only a select few who were skeptical of giving much power to the common citizen, as evidenced by the creation of the electoral college, the indirect election of U.S. Senators, and a tough constitutional amendment process, it should be noted that the Brainerd constitution has been created by many members who are genuinely concerned about the welfare of the commons and who want student involvement. This is a document written 'by the students and for the students.' I find comfort in knowing that issues such as residential concerns, event planning, funding, and common's policy will be decided by the Common's Council, who are students elected by their peers as opposed to the administration.

> While other commons are investing their time in just planning next semester's activities, Brainerd is mapping out its future and legacy of stability... the Community can confidently look forward to a bright future.

What is even more interesting is that one can be a voting member of the Council without even being elected. Article IV provides language that allows, "any bona fide Brainerd member who attends two consecutive meetings may vote at Council meetings." Although we have yet to see an individual take advantage of this provision, it is certainly a big bonus to Brainerd members since they can have a direct say in what the Council does and how this year's nearly $13,000 is spent. Again, this is simply unprecedented.

What may strike many people as surprising is the fact that many of the areas with which students are concerned are not addressed in the Constitution. That is where the bylaws come in. Over the past semester, myself and several other members of the Council have been proposing and drafting several different bylaws addressing everything from meetings of the Common's Council to dorm damage.

The constitution has been created to be the underlying framework for Brainerd. It is intended to be flexible so that it can withstand many years with minimal amending. The bylaws are specific and can be amended with only a majority vote of the Common's Council. In the coming weeks we will need more input on these bylaws as well.

With ratification, I feel that the Brainerd Community can confidently look ahead to a bright future. We should be proud that we are on the forefront. Middlebury is in a time of building and all of the commons are involved. Ross is getting a brand new building. As I see it, we here in Brainerd are building as well—not with raw materials, but with something that seems more significant in a sense. We will soon remove our 'excavators' and 'dumptrucks' leaving behind a solid foundation for Brainerd to build upon. It has been a tough job, daunting at times, but then again organizing a whole new government is not easy. I am sure the members of the 1787 Constitutional Convention would agree.

-Marc Zelnick '01.5-

A call in favor of tolerance and free speech

Nicole Miller and the competent editorial team over at the Middlebury Campus took time out of their busy schedule last semester to censor me. I would like to thank her, and them. Last year, when I was the frequent target of the proud American tradition of censorship, I never received any explanations as to why. This year, however, I received an explanation in written form. It was a long and rambling demonstration of Ms. Miller's misunderstanding of her role as chief editor of our little paper. It was also carbon copied to several people I didn't know, which was as amusing as it was strange. Truly, she is the last of a long and distinguished line of Campus editors-in-chief; a line that has seen two impeached in the last three years.

> Now, the republicans "won" back the White House this past November, and despite those among us who refuse to believe that scared rich people and intolerant Souther Baptists represent the majority of Americans, they did this year.

But denial of the opinions forum I subsidize afforded me time. At the bars, mostly, where I would run up considerable tabs getting some guy named "Willis" too drunk to tell the difference between the Dallas Cowboys and the right teams on which to bet. Don't let anyone ever tell you that alcohol can't make you money. That's right, Kennedy. And don't let anyone ever, ever tell you that your future wife has already been born, 'cause she hasn't. That's right, Kennedy.

And so I am brought to my final purpose for writing today, a chance to discuss tolerance and the Second Amendment. I had a dream not too long ago where I was being chased by three marmosets riding on the back of a speckled wyvern in Baja, Calif. Then a 700-pound. Hawaiian ukulele singer suffering of tyrosinosis emerged out of a thick, green cloud of wormwood. I awoke to sharks fighting monkeys, and, just as the monkey cavalry had overrun the earthworks to take the sharks' colors, Minerva, the wise old owl, swooped down out of the fire-red sky with the answer to last night's dinner dispute: shale over igneous, except on Sundays.

Now, the republicans "won" back the White House this past November, and despite those among us who refuse to believe that scared rich people and intolerant Southern Baptists represent the majority of Americans, they did this year. So what that he's as dyslexic as the civil engineer who designed Boston. And so what that he's done enough drugs to make The Mill look sober. He's entertaining. And entertainment is, when it comes down to it, all we have ever asked of our leaders. So let us be tolerant of this twisted fate, and celebrate it with guns, tolerantly.

Truth be told, i'm glad Gore's gone. He was for gun control. Now, as I see it, you can't control the guns, because when you start to try, the guns just end up controlling you. That's what I woulda told the Vice President if he'd ever asked me. I'd have said, "You can't control the guns, Mr. Vice President, because when you start to try, the guns just end up controlling you." But I would have told him so at top volume. "Volumen" it's called in Spanish. I don't know how to say "top" in Spanish. I think it's "Topo," or "Tijuana," or "Tex-Mex." The Second Amendment is the one that upholds all the rest, as any God-fearing man will kindly explain. He'll also remind you that Hitler's first move was to register all the guns in Germania. Now that's tolerance; if tolerance is German for "let me kill you." And I pay taxes.

A great man once asked, "What's so 'civil' about war, anyway?" That man was Axl Rose, a rock-singing agoraphobic who has since drowned in the depth of his own rhetoric. Axl's message is as much ignored today as it was the eight years ago it was first uttered. And so goes tolerance. We've had moqa structures ripped down, fires started in dorms, slurs thrown at townies, rocks thrown at townies, townies thrown down stairs, townies the butt of repetitive jokes, and everyone else seems to hate me. But that's all right, Middlebury, because we're striving for a better tomorrow. And we will do better, so let us take gentle solace in the words of Tupac when he sings, "Keep your head up." Of course, he was addressing disenfranchised single-mothers trying to make due in a hostile urban environment. Still, analogies can be drawn.

Intolerance abounds. It is everywhere, universal, omnipresent, ubiquitous. It is in the air we breathe, the books we read, and sold to drivers in the form of bumper stickers. It is, in a word: something (which we must never cease to fight against lest we never taste the sumptuous fruit of victory against our foes or the meaty legume of valor in the face of diablerie). We all have hates, because we are all human, except for my ex-girlfriends. But wouldn't it be a better world if we could transform all our hates into strong dislikes? And wouldn't it be an even better world with an even brighter future if we could take all the strong dislikes we have toward each other and refocus those dislikes onto the animals we hunt for sport, like manatees? As our president-elect stated last week, "We must all hear the universal call to like your neighbor just like you like to be liked yourself."

> We all have hates, because we are all human, except for my ex-girlfriends.

May we never be so stupid as to give up our right to kill bears with arms, and let whatever gods may be spare California for Williamstown, Mass.

Fleischer journeys from the Green Mountains to Capitol Hill

George W. Bush's press secretary reflects on life at, after Middlebury

By Claire Bourne
Features Editor

On the other end of my phone line Ari Fleischer '82 maps out his journey from Middlebury to 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, highlighting aspects of his college experience and a chance telephone call not soon after graduation that ultimately set him in the direction of Washington D.C.

In the middle of describing his relationship with the press, Fleischer asks if he can put me on hold. A few minutes later he clicks back to my call. "Where were we?" he asks. "The media," I reply, and he effortlessly continues his explanation.

Speaking behind the podium before cameras and microphones, Fleischer says, "is like walking on a tight rope without a safety net. There is little room for error... but it's my profession and I enjoy it."

Fleischer is no stranger to questions. In fact, answering them is part of his job description. In November 1999, he assumed the role of Senior Communications Adviser and Spokesman for George W. Bush's presidential campaign and is currently preparing to step into an even bigger position. On Jan. 20, as Bush is inaugurated as the 43rd president of the United States, Fleischer will become the next White House press secretary.

Passing through Middlebury

In late 1977 when Fleischer first stepped foot onto the Middlebury grounds, the school immediately shot to the top of his list of most desirable small liberal arts colleges. "I fell in love with it," he recalls, "and it instantly became my first choice."

He arrived as a first-year in the fall of 1978 and moved into a room on the third floor of Stewart Hall. Funnily enough, upon a subsequent return to campus for a class reunion, Fleischer stayed in his first-year room. "The whole ambiance was exactly the same," he says.

File Photo

Ari Fleischer '82, left, and Frank Sesno, right, have lectured at Middlebury in past years. On Jan. 20, Ari Fleischer will become the next White House Press Secretary.

An avid Yankees fan from Westchester, N.Y., Fleischer remembers New York edging out the Red Sox to clinch the AL East title in October 1978, his second month as a Middlebury student. "My friends were from Boston," he explains. "I lost them all after the game." He pauses for a moment. "But then they came back," he laughs.

When asked about the most important thing he took away from his Middlebury experience, he replies in a quasi-serious tone, "It was that couch." Pause. "I hope you don't want me to put it back!"

He actually cites the "enduring friendships" that he cultivated at the College as one important result of his time spent here. He and his friends continue to take annual trips together, a tradition he is sure "will last a lifetime."

Fleischer was a visible figure on campus during his four years at Middlebury. He participated in intramural ice hockey and softball, was a member of Kappa Delta Rho and served as vice-chairman and later as chairman of the Student Forum.

During his senior year, in order to make some extra spending money, he even worked behind the counter at Proctor ladling food to the line of hungry students. "It was a very social job," he comments.

Fleischer's flair for politics was evident in more ways than one. First of all, he was a political science major who took classes from both the current Secretary of the College Eric Davis and Political Science Professor Murray Dry.

"The thing I remember most about [Fleischer] as a student is that he was very, very interested in politics," says Davis who taught the then-junior in a class on Congress in 1981. "I recognized him as someone who followed politics closely."

As a student, Fleischer was "good to have in class because he always came well prepared," according to Davis. "But he wasn't one of these people who dominated or tried to impose his views on others."

Fleischer pinpoints Professor Dry's emphasis on the importance of source material as one of the most vital lessons he learned while a student. "Read Madison's notes about the constitution before reading what people have to say about it," he explains. Translated to his job now: "Read the memo before reading what people have to say about the memo."

According to Leroy Nesbitt '82,

(see Alum, page 17)

Alumni of color panel paints images of survival

By Venessa Wong
Staff Writer

"Middlebury College has been an amazing part of my life and development," affirmed Yvonne Ellis '94. "I think the most important thing Middlebury has taught me is how to survive when things aren't looking pretty. I'm constantly growing and trying to find the right path for myself." Ellis was not alone in disclosing her experiences and advice to current students: she along with six other panel members spoke in front of an audience of faculty, alumni and students during the "Stories of Survival and Success" discussion that assembled in Coltrane Lounge Saturday, Jan. 13 as part of The Twelfth Annual Alumni of Color Weekend events which took place between Jan. 12 and 15.

Ben Brouwer

Cedric Edwards, '94, shared his story of success and survival during and after his years at Middlbury College on Saturday on the Alumni of Color panel.

Assistant Provost for Institutional Diversity Roman Graff, who oversaw the event, opened up with his own story of survival at Middlebury College. "The last place I wanted to be in... school was a small liberal arts college in New England," he explained, "but I love it here now."

He explained his initial culture conflict both as a German native and then as the first openly gay professor admitted to the college. "I saw how this community works on a completely different level, and I preferred that so much so that when I was called to be a member of the Human Relations Community, I thought, 'This is exactly what I need to do' — to look at concerns of under-represented groups on a larger scale, not prioritizing one group over the other but looking at the larger institutional picture."

His goal on the committee was then to have the administration represent the diversity they were trying to achieve as an institution. "I see my office as a central networking agency for issues of diversity with under-represented groups."

After a brief introduction by Marichal Gentry, associate dean of Student Affairs and mediator of the discussion, the seven panel members imparted their understanding and counsel as people of color both as Middlebury alumni and as members of the work force.

They included Ellis, Alvin Williams '90, Warren Reed '94, Benjamin Gyepi-Garbrah '93, Michelle Powell '96, Carlos Brown '96, and Cedric Edwards '94.

Among the most important issues addressed during the discussion were the surprises encountered in the workforce, who the speakers turned to for help and how they manipulated their resources from Middlebury to augment their choices as people of color.

According to Princeton Review, the student body is presently two percent African American, three percent Asian and five percent Hispanic. "The first thing I did when I came here was run to the football field because I was sure there'd be some brothers there," Reed humorously recounted. "There were absolutely no brothers out there."

"Believe me, there was definitely an angry little black man in me at times," admitted Brown as he recalled the frustrations of being stigmatized as a man of color. "But sitting down and talking with someone who had never even seen someone who looked like me was so invaluable. You should really take advantage of meeting all the different types of people while you are at Middlebury."

Ellis, on the other hand, remarked on the great diversity the College actually offered with its community of international students and study abroad programs. "Exposure to so many international students forces you to open your mind. Not everybody has this opportunity to adapt."

In addition to exposure, the panel also discussed the other benefits they gained from their experiences at the College. "I'm a big talker," said Brown, an openly gay publisher from New York City. "I believe in confrontation...The impulse to confront that I gained in Middlebury really helped me out in the real world."

(see Alumni, page 14)

McCullough 101 helps dancing deficient find groove

By Morgan Wilson
Staff Writer

Little McCullough dancer walkin' down the street. Didn't know what to do so she stopped in front of me. She said, "Hey, now, do your thing, do your thing, do your thing. Hey, now, do your thing, do your thing, stop."

The group attentively watched as the finger searched for a victim and found itself pointing to me. I now had to dance in the middle of the circle, surrounded by fellow students who had proclaimed their own inability to dance only moments before, much like an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting. "My name is John, and like the rest of you, I am here because I can't dance."

This could have been a subtropical torture scene in which members of the group are forced to confront their fears head on.

We had all gathered in the McCullough social space to face the fact that we, unlike our fellow students, could not "get our groove on" with the convincing grace and style of young care-free shakers and groovers out on the Saturday night club scene. Perhaps this workshop, led by senior Lisa Engelstein expert groove dancer, would help us improve our skills so that our friends would see us as the stars of the next McCullough dance party.

I arrived at McCullough a little before 6:30 last Wednesday night, a little nervous to find the lights on and the music a little softer than usual, as it was emitted from a simple boom box.

I would have no veil of darkness to cover my inadequate dance style. The world would know that I frequently resembled a drunken marionette puppet, with its awkward angles and inhibited movement due to the limitations of my strings.

Engelstein started out the evening with an introduction of the course. "I love to dance like a maniac," she said. "I am that girl you think is gonna fall off the stage."

> **I would have no veil of darkness to cover my inadequate dance style. The world would know that I frequently resembled a drunken marionette puppet.**

"It's been my dream since I was a freshman to lead this workshop. I would like to make McCullough like it should be, sensual, not sketchy."

She informed us of the key element to dancing with ease and comfort: "Passion - you have to have the heart. It's all about having fun and letting it all go. This workshop is about finding that passion and using it."

Engelstein also told her students that the workshop would address etiquette issues, appropriate attire, how to address members of the opposite sex and how to gracefully exit uncomfortable situations.

Introduction time brought shamed faces and comments like, "I am name, and I cannot dance." Tragic.

Mike Boggs '04 even went so far as to say, "I want to be the star of the next McCullough."

After introducing themselves, the members of the class formed a circle at the instruction of Engelstein and found themselves singing "Little McCullough Dancer." When the song got to the part of "Hey, now, do your thing, do your thing do your thing," the person in the middle was to dance while his or her peers tried to emulate their movements.

This activity truly showed the varying skill level of those present.

Eric Skovsted

Liv Whitman '01 abandons her inhibitions at the first meeting of the McCullough 101 workshop last Wednesday on the dance floor.

Some chose to invent their own movements on the spot or copy the moves seen in music videos and dance parties from their native areas. These rip-off moves ranged from the waving arms of Naughty by Nature's "Hey, ho" video and even the honkey tonk clap and stop move, which brought laughter to many. Even I have mastered that one.

After confronting our fears by ourselves, we were allowed to assume a group identity by following the easy moves of Engelstein.

The class did not resemble a dance class, but rather an aerobics class as we studied calculated moves and tried to keep up with our own bodies.

> **Passion — you have to have the heart. It's all about having fun and letting it all go. This workshop is about finding that passion and using it.**
> **—Lisa Engelstein '01**

We all tried hard, but some just weren't able to follow feet, arms, hands and hips all moving at the same time, so Lisa led us in isolations.

The music played to give us a beat, and we moved only our hands, or arms, or heads, as if that was the only part of our body able to reciprocate the sound waves from the boom box.

We might not have known much about dancing, but something told us that feeling the rhythm was important. I was way off rhythm.

"Do any of you feel like you don't feel the rhythm?" asked Engelstein. Apparently, some of us didn't, but none of us said anything, fearing condemnation to dance class failure.

After the class, I was amazed at all I had learned. To be a great dancer, I just had to release my inhibitions and maybe pick up a few more moves here and there.

"I think it went really well," commented Engelstein. "I had a lot of fun, and I was really excited by the energy of all the students."

The class will finish with a showcase to be held Thursday, Feb. 1. In addition to its showcase, McCulloughs newest shakers and groovers might participate in MCAB's "Dance Until the Sun Comes Up" charity dance-a-thon, on Friday, Jan. 26.

Students can still join classes on Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. until the end of Winter Term.

Grille session

Ben Brouwer

Singing her heart out, *Anais Mitchell '04, accompanied by Caleb Elder '04 on drum and violin, performed a wonderful mix of original songs and covers in The Grille on Sunday night.*

What About Bob?

By Bob Wainwright
Sports Editor

Good evening, and merry J-term. My name is Bob Wainwright, and I am happy to inform you that even though the productivity rate at Middlebury has dropped 80 percent since the new year, we here at *The Campus* are still working around the clock to bring you the stories that affect your life.

That's right. We are not deterred by the fact that many of you are comatose 14 hours a day and unintelligible six out of the remaining 10. And, we are aware that many of you have not read a printed word since exams. But, if between your daily nap and movie, you ask yourself, "What *about* Bob?" you should know that he has not given in to the J-term slumber. Right now, he happens to be hard at work on his computer. And he will not stop... that is, until the moment the word count box reads 800.

Funny enough we had some pretty [illegible] goings on with the newspaper staff since the last issue. For starters, there was the whole election controversy. For those of you who could care less, each semester the entire staff votes on editor-in-chief. This past December, it looked like Nicole Miller would have an easy go with it, seeing as how the newspaper hadn't been sued or anything bad like that since she had taken the helm.

However, I was determined to run. And more importantly, I was determined to win. I planned a speech and read it to the entire staff at our final meeting. In it, I promised to no longer call the office late at night only to ask, "Is your computer running?...Then, why don't you catch it?" I also included some popular phrases to appeal to our younger editors, starting off, for instance, by screaming, "Whaaaazzzz Uuuuuup?"

Surprisingly, I was defeated by a vote of 14 to zero. But, finding a loophole within *The Campus* constitution, I refused to concede and demanded a recount. After a few recounts, I demanded that the one missing editor must be present to make the election official. That wish was granted, and the vote then became 15 to zero. That was when I gave up and humbly retook my position as sports editor.

But as a great philosopher once said, "Every cloud has a silver lining." And while I have never been fond of proverbs, you do have to take the good with the bad. And of course, no pain, no gain. Because, it would be foolish to think that Rome was built in a day. I mean, you have to break an egg to make an omelet, right?

Enough with the proverbs. That joke was most certainly a miss. But as they say, a miss is as

(see Pithy, page 16)

Paris Post

By Anne DeWitt
Staff Writer

The first touchdown in Paris that I remember took place on a hot August day in 1989. I was 10 years old and totally unprepared for jet lag, which hit that afternoon after the excitement of actually being in France wore off.

I passed out on the wooden bed in my little attic room, but my parents shook me awake, tumbled me into the shower and dragged me and my little sister off to a café, where the *limonade* we ordered turned out to be not the refreshing sour stuff, but a syrupy version of 7UP.

I found out later that if you want lemonade in a French café, you ask for *citron pressé*. But the day of my most recent landing in Paris was much more appropriate to a big cup of café au lait.

Friday Jan. 5 was a chilly day here, with violent wind and intermittent spurts of heavy rain. Fortunately, I can deal with jet lag much more easily now. Two-and-half years of college teach you to get used to odd hours and sleep loss.

But the purpose of both arrivals was the same: not to be a tourist, but to live in France. The first time, I moved with my whole family to Versailles (about an hour by train outside Paris) while my father was on sabbatical for the year.

This time, I'm on my own for my junior semester abroad, staying with a single woman in an apartment near Place de la Bastille. And though it's my first time living in a big city, so many things are familiar: tiny showers, brusque shopkeepers, *lait stérilizé* (I still don't get why the French eat raw-milk cheese and drink sterilized milk), the neon-green first-aid crosses that blink outside of pharmacies, lines that stretch outside a *boulangerie* all the way to the corner.

So I'm not suffering from *mal de pays* (homesickness; literally, sickness for one's country). At least not yet. I am, however, experiencing a bit of culture shock, although it's rather in the positive direction. The French are much less scary than I remember.

The impressions I had retained from previous visits, especially the year I lived here and a month I spent with friends vacationing on the Atlantic, were of a people who tended to be rather cool and abrupt with strangers and, to a certain extent, even with people they knew.

Whether it's because I'm older, because I was expecting the worst or because my early perceptions were skewed, I am constantly surprised by how friendly everyone is. Admittedly, there was the cabbie who told me that my heavy bags had reinitiated her chronic back injury, and the woman behind the

(see First, page 16)

Health center sheds light on SADness, offers a cure

By Megan Michelson
Staff Writer

January at Middlebury College is a month in which students are allowed to enjoy life in Vermont without the overwhelming academic pressures from full course schedules. It is a time to relax, have fun and take advantage of opportunities that one would not otherwise have time to appreciate.

However, some students are not so fortunate as to be able to take pleasure in wintertime activities due to a case of depression known as Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD). SAD is a mood disorder associated with depressive episodes and is directly related to lack of sufficient sunlight during winter months.

Sometimes students are not aware that this is a diagnosable condition. Students should know that there is support and treatment.

—Gary Margolis

SAD is more common in northern parts of the country and particularly during January and February. Younger people and women are at higher risk of suffering from this severe case of the winter blues.

According to the website of the National Mental Health Association, the condition is caused by an increased production of the hormone melatonin, which is known to cause symptoms of depression. Melatonin is produced at higher level in the dark and during the nighttime. During the winter, when the days are shorter and darker, the production of the hormone increases. Symptoms are similar to those of depression, but also include excessive eating and sleeping, weight gain, irritability, avoidance of social situations, fatigue and difficulty thinking and making decisions.

An estimated 10 million Americans, several of whom could be Middlebury College students, suffer from SAD. It can be identified by reoccurring episodes of depression during the fall and winter and full remission during the spring and summer. Middlebury students, particularly those from the Southwest and other regions with naturally warmer climates, are more susceptible to the disorder due to the cold and dark winter days during the month of January. Although Winter Term is designed to provide an outlet for creative uses of time, for sufferers of SAD, it could be spent very unhappily.

There are, however, treatments available to reduce the results of this type of depression. According to Gary Margolis, the director of the Counseling and Human Relations Center, SAD is an important health issue on the Middlebury campus. "Over the years we've definitely worked with students who have felt the shift of light as seasons change. As light shifts, particularly if a student is used to a more intense or longer duration of light during the winter, there can be a pretty precipitous change in mood," said Margolis. The symptoms described as being related to students are difficult to distinguish from depression. "Some characteristics include lethargy, sadness and a down mood that seems not to relate to other external factors," said Margolis.

Nevertheless, cases of SAD on campus can be just as serious as other forms of depression. "It is a mood disorder that is recognized medically and psychiatrically. The shift in mood can be quite profound and frightening," said Margolis.

Margolis also stressed the amount of support available in the Counseling Center located in Carr Hall. There is free and confidential counseling as well as light treatment, which is one of the proven treatments for SAD. Also called phototherapy, the exposure to bright, florescent lights suppresses the brain's secretion of melatonin, thus reducing the symptoms of depression.

"Last year, we were able to purchase a high intensity light, specifically for those who are prone to SAD," said Margolis. "Students are welcome to come study by the light for 20 minutes three times a week, which is the recommended amount of light exposure," said Margolis.

SAD is a mood disorder that is recognized medically and psychiatrically. The shift in mood can be quite... frightening.

—Gary Margolis, director of counseling/human relations center

The Health Center on campus offers the light treatment for students suffering from forms of winter sadness. For mild symptoms of depression, simply spending time outdoors in natural sunlight is enough to treat distressed spirits. A study proved that a one-hour walk in winter sunlight is as effective as two and a half hours under bright, artificial light.

With more severe cases, phototherapy can be combined with prescribed antidepressant medication.

The Counseling Center will continue to encourage increased awareness of forms of depression, including SAD. Beginning Jan. 22, Middlebury is hosting a National Depression Screening week, in which students will be invited to participate for free, confidential screenings for depression and SAD. Students can call the office at extension 5141 to set up a screening. There will also be a presentation and discussion on coping with the blues and depression in the Mitchell Green Lounge on Tuesday, Jan. 23.

"Sometimes students are not aware that this is a diagnosable condition. With increased knowledge of the disorder, students should know that there is support and treatment, and at the Counseling Center we encourage those suffering from depression or experiencing seasonal mood shifts to come talk to us," said Margolis.

Any brightly lit climate or activity such as skiing or hiking is beneficial to one's physical, as well as mental, stability. For students to avoid suffering from this often serious case of winter sadness, they should appreciate the endless amounts of outdoor opportunities available on and off campus. Natural light, when it is available, is proven to be crucial in maintaining mental health. Winter Term shouldn't be a time of unhappiness. Help is readily available and there is no need for Middlebury students to waste time being sad.

Remembering Rudy Burckhardt

Alex Westra

Peter Kalb, Visting Assistant Professor of History of Art, speaks during the opening of the "Rudy Burkhardt and Friends" exhibit Tuesday.

Alumni panel emphasizes solidarity

(continued from page 12)

"The most important thing I gained at Middlebury," said Gyepi-Garbrah, a quantitative researcher in investment banking from Ghana "was leverage. I had the opportunity to establish relationships that I bring into what I do now. Middlebury definitely provides access."

The first thing I did when I came here was run to the football field because I was sure there'd be brothers there. There were absolutely no brothers out there.

—Warren Reed '94

At some point in each of their survival and success stories, the panel members reiterated their desire sto reach out and help current students. "Alumni of Color Weekend saved my college career," admitted Lenna Cumberbatch '99. "Just know that we alumni and the panel up there will always have your back. My knowing that really helped me."

"I thought the discussion was very helpful, " said first-year Rachel Williams, a member of the African American Alliance, afterwards. "It was encouraging to hear the experiences of other minorities and know they are there to help you out. Non-minority alumni do not share the same experiences in school and in the workforce and might not be able to prepare us for those future experiences. That's a part of 'surviving' at Middlebury."

Following the panel discussion, the other alumni who were present in the audience were given the opportunity to impart their own advice. "Please take advantage of all the resources Middlebury makes available to you," they all resonated. Study abroad programs and the establishment of close ties with students and professors were encouraged over and over again.

The ultimate goal of these efforts they all established is self-discovery, knowledge of who one is and what one desires in one's life.

"Know what you want," urged Dionne Thornton '00, as she rose from the audience. "Study abroad, open you mind, get the hell out of Middlebury if you need to. Discover yourself and go after your dreams. Do what seems impractical and unrealistic. You may be surprised by what will happen."

College serves up Snow Bowl, ski-fever to warm winter chill

By Claire Bourne
Features Editor

January has arrived – naked trees have slipped into elegant, white garments, faces are ripe for an encounter with frostbite, and in the distance, the freshly snow-covered ski trails of the Green Mountains beckon. Dorm halls are lined with black and silver Rossignol boots and Salomon skis, while the Middlebury shuttle, filled to capacity, regularly traverses town on the way to Bread Loaf and the Snow Bowl.

This is Winter Term, a time when thoughts turn from studies to ski slopes, from books to snowboards, from Proctor food to brown bag lunches. One might even wake up before 10 a.m. on a Saturday or Sunday to enjoy a full day on the mountain.

This is by no means a new phenomenon, but rather a tradition that has endured since the early 20th century when the development of the Snow Bowl as a ski area began.

In this piece, the first installment in a series on the history of Middlebury, we examine the legacy of the College's own skiing area – how it came to be and the ways in which it has defined the extracurricular life of the College community.

A brief history of the Snow Bowl

According to David Stameshkin, author of "The Strength of the Hills,""Before World War I, Middlebury students did not, at least in any organized way, take advantage of the snow that blanketed...the Green Mountains." However, in 1917, a small group of men founded an Outing Club, using a group at Dartmouth as a blueprint for the new endeavor. Their goal was to send a team to the Dartmouth Carnival and similar events at McGill and Norwich.

The club founders soon ran into a serious problem: there existed a serious lack of student interest due to deficient organization and preparation. Nevertheless, men's teams traveled to skiing meets and carnivals at the aforementioned locations.

Stameshkin reports occasional success. For instance, in 1922, the College swept the snowshoe event at McGill. *The Middlebury Campus* boasted that Middlebury possessed "the foremost collegiate snowshoers in this country."

Interest in skiing did not take off until the 1930s. The 1932 Winter Olympics in Lake Placid seemed a logical explanation, for two years later, Middlebury constructed its first ski jump on Chipman Hill. The jump was modeled after the Lake Placid model.

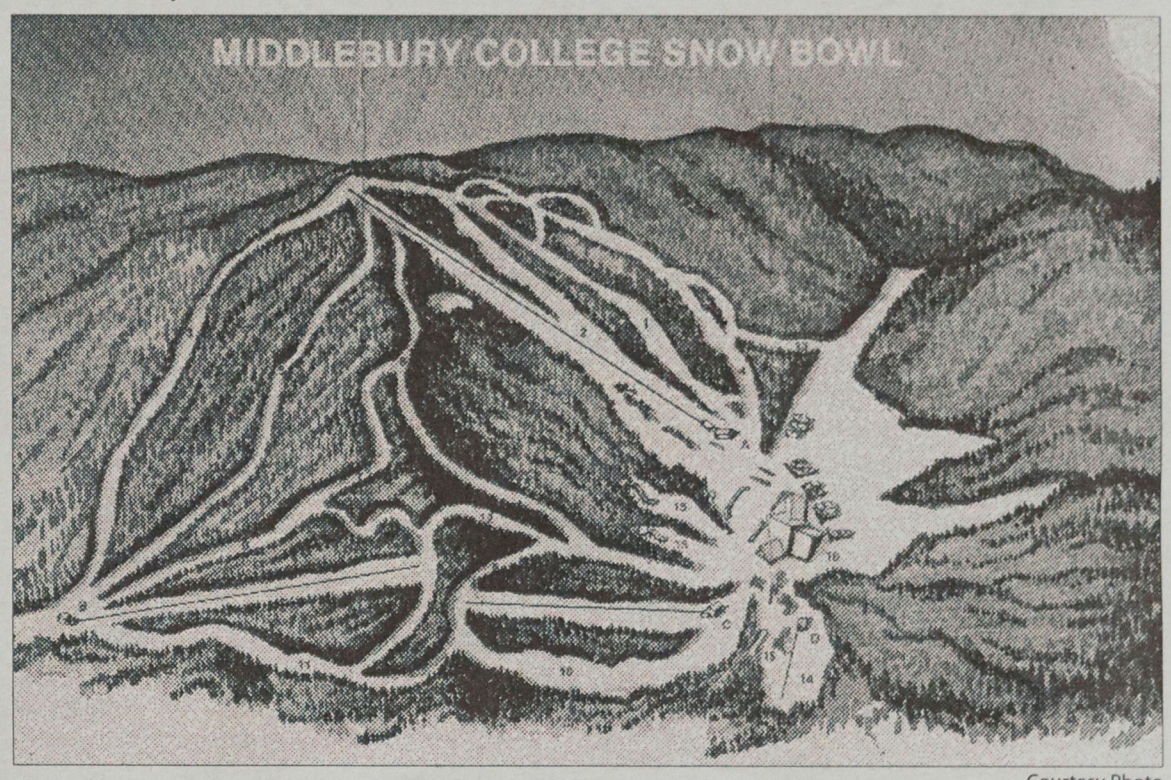
The first trails were cut on Worth Mountain in 1936 thanks to the efforts of those affiliated with both the College and the town.

Ski-fever suddenly exploded on campus. Wrote W. C. Heinz '37 in *The Campus*,"Yes sir. Middlebury, it seems, has truly taken the time off to keep abreast of the times and go ski-crazy...So it goes – Middlebury eats, breathes, walks, talks and lives skiing."

The College hired the first paid men's coach in 1937. Two years later, Arthur Schlatter was brought in from Europe to train a women's team. On the first day of lessons, 87 girls showed up on Chapel Hill to try their talents. Schlatter's work paid off, for seven years later, Middlebury graduated star skier Becky Fraser '46, who went on to become the first Middlebury athlete to compete in the Olympics.

In 1954, *The Campus* reported the College's plans to build a new ski lodge, which "would be considerably larger than the present one, offering accommodations for the less ardent ski enthusiasts who only desire to watch." The article also mentioned the installation of telephone and electricity lines at the Bowl – a project that, when completed, would facilitate communication between the ski area and the main campus.

As the years rolled on, more skiers enrolled in the College because of the vast improvements like these at the Snow Bowl. By 1971, the area boasted 15 kilometers of cross-country trails, three Poma ski lifts, a 4200 foot double chairlift, 14 slalom and downhill trails and three jumps.



Courtesy Photo

The Middlebury College Snow Bowl has provided good skiing for students close to campus for close to 75 years.

Whether a feature of the Middlebury brochure for prospective students or an outlet for current students, the Snow Bowl has played an undeniable role in life at the College.

The subsequent completion of the Neil Starr Ski Lodge, a base building fully equipped with food, a library, a fireplace and rest area, and the Jane Rikert Ski-Touring Center "arguably made the Snow Bowl the finest college ski area in the country," Stameshkin affirms in his book. It's no surprise then that 30 percent of the student body purchased season passes during the 1960s and 1970s.

However, a lack of snow between 1980 and 1984 severely decreased this number. Only 28 season passes were sold during the 1983-84 season. The 1984 Eastern Collegiate Skiing Championships were forced to move from the Bowl to Pico Peak. The College's embarrassment prompted trustees to donate $850,000 for snowmaking equipment. Consequently, the next season saw the sale of 560 passes.

Today, the Bowl offers ski buffs one triple and two double chair lifts that serve 15 trails – 22 miles of skiing. The Bread Loaf campus features 25 miles of groomed cross-country trails.

Selling the Snow Bowl's image

Middlebury's nearby downhill and cross-country skiing facilities have no doubt been a selling point for the College. Every Snow Bowl brochure from the past refers in some capacity to one's "inner-skier" or the reason why one must check out the Bowl.

One brochure reads, "Middlebury College, the home of skiing enthusiasts."

Another affirms, "[Middlebury] introduces the young man and woman to the classroom, library, laboratory, ski slopes, playing field, to competent teachers and promising young men and women of their own age."

While some view the winter as the bitterest, most unpleasant time of year, another brochure paints it in an unmistakably positive light: "Vermont, in the snowy garb of winter, is an exciting experience... the dry, cold air, brilliant sunlight and clean snow... provide a perfect setting for a winter holiday, vacation or ski trip."

In 1955, when the Snow Bowl's first Poma ski lift was completed, a new brochure appeared, boasting the College's new state-of-the-art technology. The lift was described as "the most modern in use today... easier, safer, smoother, faster, more comfortable and convenient... THE LIFT YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR – you'll like it because it waits for you."

A February 1982 issue of *The Campus* featured a commentary by Peter Campbell entitled "Bourgeois Bowl." The piece opens with these images: "Young handsome fold reveling in their health while enjoying the sport of the elite. The bourgeois trappings are all in place: Saabs to the mountain. A crisp $20 bill flicked from the wallet to the register. A pair of mirror sunglasses to aid the hangover. And, afterwards, imported beer. How bourgeois." However, he ultimately comes to the conclusion, "[The Bowl] might be bourgeois, and it might send Karl Marx... into apoplexy, but boy, oh boy, if I'm taking a nice run down some powdery slope, you can have your ideology."

Forget the new lifts. Forget the sparkle of sunlit icicles. Guys and girls just want to have fun. Through the years, the Snow Bowl has offered this opportunity.

The importance of snow

What is skiing without enough snow? Well, impossible, for one thing. For another, it signifies a huge disappointment to students eagerly anticipating the first snowfall of the season. That doesn't mean that they won't go to any lengths possible to take advantage of the miniscule amounts.

An article in the Dec. 10, 1964 edition of *The Campus* reported the late opening of the Snow Bowl. "Before Monday, the Snow Bowl had been closed due to insufficient base. This, however, did not stop... sledders, trayers, and even ecstatic individuals who only wished to roll around in the snow. Most noteworthy were the enterprising students who managed to filch trays from Proctor and... zip along the hard-packed snow."

The Features Editor in 1965 even wrote a "Ski Dictionary," commenting often on the seasonal lack of snow. Among the entries were, "'Good to excellent' – conditions advertised by the ski area if there is enough snow to hide at least part of the rocks," and "'Snow' – a rare entity in '64-'65. Rumored to have once been plentiful."

A *Campus* reporter wrote in 1956, "An outsider's impression of Middlebury is almost invariably that the entire student body is composed of skiers of near-Olympic caliber."

Whether a feature of the Middlebury brochure for prospective students or an outlet for current students, the Snow Bowl has played and continues to play an undeniable role in life at the College.

No matter the level, skiers flock to the slopes of the Bowl to release stress or simply to have a good time with friends. But there comes a time when the snow melts and books need to be retrieved.

No source describes the institution of skiing at the College and the inevitable return to campus better than a T.S. Eliot takeoff by Philip Lane entitled "The Love Song of J. Alfred Alpenstock" He wrote in a 1950 edition of *The Campus*,

"I grow bold... I grow bold...

I shall wear the bottoms of my ski-pants rolled.

Shall I buy some silver wax? Do I dare forsake ear-muffs?

I shall wear my new ski sweater with the built-in pure wool cuffs.

We have lingered in the valleys and the hills,

By ski-girls dressed in most exquisite brown,

Till chapel bells recall us, and we drown."

Courtesy Photo

An early poster for the Snow Bowl displays Fred Neuberg skiing down the slopes of the mountain in fahionable outerwear.

Knowledge as sin: Roger Shattuck weighs impact of words

By Kristine Palmero
Staff Writer

On Jan. 12 Roger Shattuck, Professor Emeritus at Boston University, discussed his book "Forbidden Knowledge: From Pometheus to Pornography." Although Shattuck, a self-described humanist, began writing it in 1985 when he returned from teaching in Africa, its actual gestation period was 45 years.

The work, whose original subtitle was "A history of stories," was a critical analysis of the history of literary narratives and case histories, such as the stories of Adam and Eve and Prometheus, in which knowledge is a form of sin.

"Milton seduced me," Shattuck said. "I couldn't get away from 'Paradise Lost.'" However, as the book neared completion, he realized that he needed to write two crucial chapters on pornography and science and technology, on which he focused much of his Friday presentation. In "Forbidden Knowledge," he includes an "interlude" which attacks the human genome project, an opinion for which he has been criticized by scientists.

"It has [also] been systematically ignored and boycotted by many literary critics," he said. While the work is published in six different languages, there is no publisher in England and Scotland.

"When it was published in 1996, current events [could have] buried the book," he explained, "but on the contrary they floated the book." Scientific developments such as Dolly the sheep and scores of studies on the discovery of the so-called immortality gene raised controversial ethical questions.

What resulted was a new collaboration between the sciences and humanities and cautionary stories from ancient books, about which Shattuck wrote in "Forbidden Knowledge," became focal points for discussion and perhaps even sources of wisdom. The best scientists are cultured and know both disciplines well.

Bill Joy, who is best known as the principal designer of the UNIX-operating system and a key player in the development of Java-technology, is one such example. In Joy's article "Why the Future Doesn't Need Us," which was published in *Wired* magazine, he writes that computers and robots will replace humans.

Pornography has always existed, and like literature and advertising, has power.

"Bill Joy is a prophet of doom," Shattuck said. "I think he's wrong. I think he exaggerates, but then, he knows more than I do."

Of the importance of the knowledge in both literature and science, Shattuck said, "We can deal with such notions [of science and ethics] in stories rather than in ideas which exclude time and people." Shattuck cited the Roman myth of Cupid and Psyche, who wanted to know how Cupid looked. When the wax from her candle fell on his forehead, he woke up and left her because he had disobeyed her. "The dream is over because of her desire for too great a knowledge," he said.

Is there any knowledge that is truly forbidden or too great? Shattuck talked about how Wendel Holmes' free-market analogy also applies to the freedom of the exchange of ideas and of Darwin's selective process. "What catches me is the degree to which the three realms of economic, intellectual and evolutionary, make us believe we should leave things to chance, to nature to create spontaneous order," he said. "The irony is, we're still hesitant to tamper in economics and free speech but we have become willing to interfere with evolution."

"What catches me is the degree to which the three realms of economic, intellectual and evolutionary make us believe we should leave things to chance..."
— Roger Shattuck, Professor Emeritus at Boston University

He added that "natural selection" is an inaccurate term because "selection" implies conscious choosing when, in fact, studies such as the human genome project imply "we're going to do it better because nature didn't do it as well." He suggested that scientists should take an oath to slow down. "Frost said, 'We shall all be judged by the delicacy of our feeling, knowing how far to go,'" he quoted.

"On one hand, we have laws and customs to limit behavior," he said, "but the symbolic products of hand should not fall under similar restraints. That divergence merits close scrutiny." He explained that experience comes from the word "experiment," and "rhetoric, propaganda and advertising link symbolic products of mind with action."

Pornography, for example, has always existed; and Shattuck said it is a form of systematic propaganda because it "combines druelty and sexual satisfaction...displaces affection, offspring and the social unit called the family. It is an attack of social morals which are very fragile."

Pornography, like literature and advertising, has power. Shattuck gave the chilling example of the serial killers Ted Bundy and the Moors in England, who had read Marquis de Sade, who had written extensively against family and social order.

De Sade is taught at many colleges and high schools, but Shattuck said that "he should not be taught as a great thinker."

"We can't produce a causal effect between [de Sade's work] and all these violently sexual scenes of cruelty; but we [also cannot say] that words do not have an effect on us. The third-biggest industry advertising is based on the idea that words do make a difference."

Pithy proverbs and an election scandal

(continued from 'Bob' page 13)
good as a mile, and if nothing is ventured, nothing can be gained. Now that I'm sure you are all laughing heartily, let's move on. The show must go on.

Moving on and away from this proverbial scene, I feel it's important to point out that J-term is a great opportunity to do some really positive things that you would not have the chance to do during a normal school semester. Like if you have an old dog, for instance, teach him some new tricks. Pick out some books in the library, look at their covers, and if they look interesting, read them.

Last year, a friend of mine used this month to watch the entire James Bond collection. Personally, I suggest using this time to hone a skill that you already have, such as beer pong or playing Bond.

While I have never been fond of proverbs, you have to take the good with the bad. I mean, you have to break an egg to make an omelet, right?

Or take my day for example. This morning, I woke up at 11 and went to lunch at 12. Then, I watched "Road Trip." After that, I took a nap and then went to the gym. Then, I had dinner. I decided it was best to follow that up with a more serious movie, so I popped in "Crimson Tide." Since then I have been working diligently on making a really big ball of tape which I can throw at people and have it stick on them. That will be funny.

So, that's about all I have to say. I'm going to hang out for a couple more hours before going to bed, because you know what they say: Late to bed, late to rise.

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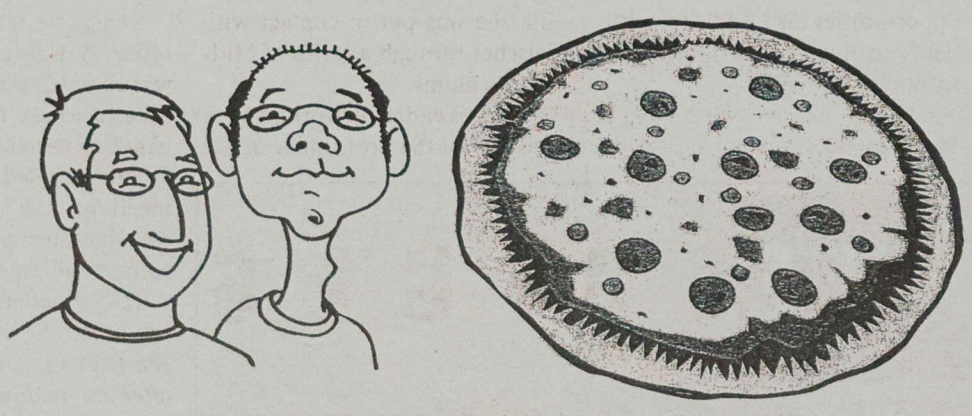

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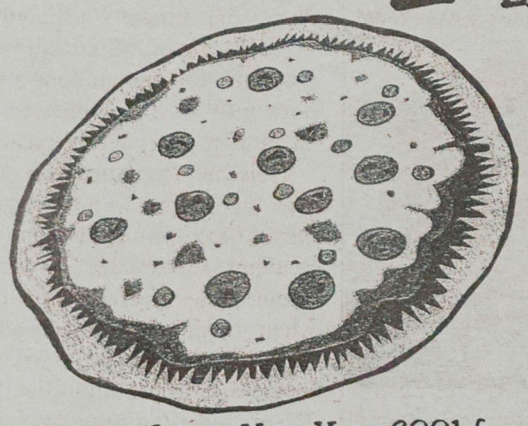

Happy New Year 2001 from everyone at Neil and Otto's Pizza
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Free Delivery! Call Now!

First impressions of Paris second time 'round

(continued from 'Paris' page 14)
metro ticket counter who starting yelling at me because she was out of change and I couldn't pay the exact price.

But they've been the exceptions. My hostess asked me to *tutoyer* her ten minutes after my arrival; bought me three different kinds of plain yogurt so that I could decide what brand I preferred and drove me around Paris the evening I arrived to show me the city at night. Her son spent forty-five minutes explaining all the different cell phone plans available and telling me the advantages and disadvantages of each. The French professors who teach Middlebury's orientation session remain patient and even cheerful in face of our worst blasphemies of grammar and accent.

Fortunately, I can deal with jet-lag now. Two and a half years of college teach you to get used to odd hours and sleep loss.

And then there are the people I don't know: other runners who say *bonjour* when we pass each other; the man at the pool who ran off to get my friend and I printed schedules when he saw us looking at the posted one; the *maitre d'* at the restaurant who didn't get mad when only eight people showed up for an eleven-person reservation.

Two years ago I spent the month of January in the frigid, dingy old Science Center, learning about nucleophilicity and resonance. Taking J-term orgo is necessary if you want to major in chemistry and spend a semester abroad, but the experience was rather intense: three hours of lecture, three hours of lab, several chapters of reading and a problem set every day. I woke up every morning with the molecules I'd studied the previous night floating before my eyes.

This January is my payback for that one. I have six hours of class a week, a little homework and a lot of time to just be in Paris. Pedagogically, the point is to leave us time to adapt to the culture and the city. As far as educational experiences go, I think I prefer it to dreaming about organic structures.

Alum steps up to key White House post

(continued from page 12)

then president of the Black Student Union and currently special assistant to the provost, the young Fleischer already had a feel for the inner workings of politics.

Nesbitt worked closely with Fleischer on several issues, including the question of whether or not the College was going to pull out a small investment in apartheid South Africa. Nesbitt lobbied for divestment and thought that Fleischer supported him. He knew he was right when Fleischer approached him in Upper Proctor, after the College voted against the proposal.

Recalls Nesbitt, "He recognized that we hadn't been adequately prepared and said something like, 'I guess we learned we should have had the gears greased beforehand.'" At that instant, continues Nesbitt, he saw in Fleischer "a person who knew you have to sell the issue."

Fleischer also expressed an interest in communications, which in addition to politics works into his current post, during his college years. Several of his articles from *The Middlebury Campus*, most of them geared toward politics, serve as proof.

Not only did he write letters to the editor about the nation's foreign policy in regards to the Middle East, El Salvador and the arms race with Russia, but he also completed a two-week, four-page in depth look at the existing state of fraternities at the College.

On to the White House

Fleischer "entered Middlebury a Democrat and left on the way to becoming a Republican," he reflects.

This shift in political leaning did not bring him any closer to a career focus. He admits that he "had no idea what to do after graduation." Following his departure from Middlebury in spring 1982, he returned home.

Soon, however, his career path was solidified by a Middlebury connection. He received a phone call offering him a job as press secretary for New York congressional candidate Jon Fossel. He took the job, which he says, "shows you how little you need to know to be a press secretary."

Fossel's campaign to unseat Representative Dick Ottinger (R-N.Y.) ultimately failed, and Fleischer soon packed up and headed to Washington D.C.

Upon hearing the news, Nesbitt, a Washington native, remembers thinking, "This guy is going to be in Washington forever."

Nesbitt's hunch has been right so far. According to a report in *The Washington Post* [Mr. Congeniality, Dec. 29, 2000], Fleischer began his Capitol Hill career working in the basement of the Republican National Committee. He then became press secretary to New York congressman Norman Lent, worked on several campaigns and joined the National Republican Congressional Committee. In 1989, he signed on with New Mexico Senator Pete Domenici.

After a few years, Fleischer decided to take a break from politics and formed his own public relations firm. He couldn't, however, stay away from politics for long. In 1994, he returned to the Hill to join the House Ways and Means Committee under Bill Archer (R-Texas).

He left Archer in March 1999 to work on Elizabeth Dole's bid for the Republican ticket. Fleischer resigned six months later when the campaign floundered. In November of the same year, he stepped up as George W. Bush's senior communications adviser.

"Finally, and very happily, I decided that this was a rare opportunity," he told *The Washington Post*. "This was really a candidate I could really believe in."

In three days, Fleischer will become the official voice of the White House, a job that entails daily press briefings on behalf of the president.

"I love working with the press," he remarks. "With the media, everything is measurable. Talk to the press today. Let's see how it comes out in the papers tomorrow."

Fleischer defines his relationship with the press as "very good." He says he respects them. In fact, he affirms, "I am one of the few people who will admit to liking them."

This is not to say he is completely at ease in front of media personnel. Speaking behind the podium before cameras and microphones, he says, "is like walking on a tight rope without a safety net."

He continues, "There is little room for error. It forces you to do your homework, but it's my chosen profession, and I enjoy it."

The ongoing connection with Middlebury

May 1982 wasn't the last Middlebury saw of Fleischer. He has been back several times to address the College community.

Most recently, he participated on a panel with CNN Washington Bureau Chief Frank Sesno '77 and Congressman William Delahunt '62 (D-Mass.).

During the February 1999 event, the three "exchanged friendly banter over bipartisanship in post-impeachment Washington," *The Campus* reported.

"Fleischer has also always been good about providing opportunities for Middlebury students to intern with him," comments Davis.

That is exactly what Megan Sowards '98.5, former editor-in-chief of *The Campus* and now a speech writer for Senator Lincoln Chafee (R-R.I.), did during the summer of 1998.

After expressing interest in a Washington internship to a visiting press secretary from Capitol Hill, she was put in contact with Fleischer through a series of Middlebury alums.

Sowards ended up working with Fleischer in the press office of the House Ways and Means Committee. "You always hear horror stories about interns who do nothing but shred paper on Capitol Hill. Ari wanted to make sure that wasn't the case," she asserts.

An English major who had never taken a political science course, Sowards admits that the internship was like a "crash course in poli-sci." She continues, "He was generous with his time and helped me gain as much knowledge about Capitol Hill as possible."

Being one of three people in the office, Sowards explains, "There was so much work that Ari had no time to worry that an intern was handling certain tasks."

She attended morning strategy meetings and press briefings and even had the opportunity to write some small press releases.

Her experience under Fleischer's direction was so positive that she kept in touch with him, and after graduation, with his help, she snagged a speech-writing job in the office of the late Senator John Chafee.

"He is very busy, but he definitely takes time to support his alma mater," Sowards observed during her time in Washington.

Davis agrees, "This is a great opportunity for him and a great opportunity for Middlebury to have an alum in such a visible position."

Fleischer has one piece of advice for current Middlebury students: "Enjoy yourselves and take academics seriously. Don't worry about what you're going to do when you graduate. If you concentrate on the first two, you won't have to worry about the third. There's plenty of time for a career but only four years of college, or five in the case of some of my friends." He laughs. "Just kidding."

You always hear horror stories about interns who do nothing but shred paper on Capitol Hill. Ari made sure that wasn't the case with me.

—Megan Sowards '98.5

During his senior year, in order to make some extra spending money, Fleischer even worked behind the counter at Proctor ladling food to the line of hungry students.

At peace

Eric Skovsted

Inhaling deeply, *Jackie Fitzpatrick '01 concentrates on technique during the Yoga Winter Term workshop in Mitchell Green Lounge.*

CAMPUS VOICES

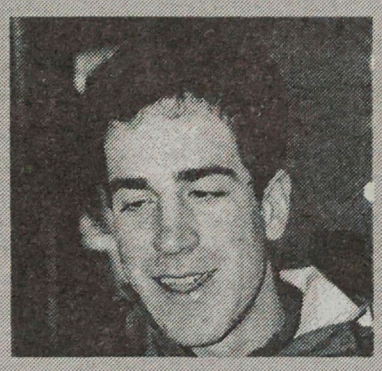
If you could leave snowy Vermont right now, where would you go?

Compiled by Claire Bourne

Photos by Alex Westra

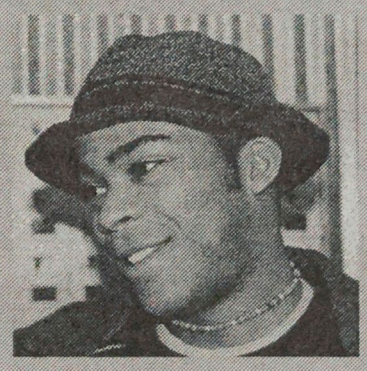
"I'd be in Wing-Wong Restaurant in Chinatown eating a big bowl of congee and smiling."

-RuiBing Zheng '04



"Snowy Colorado."

-Hunter Smith '04



"To Sierra-Nevada, Granada.. the old Arabian bath houses are right down the ski hills."

-Reid Porter '01

"To Ecuador so I can ollie over the equator."

-Jeff Lanza '01

'Surface Transit' travels cultural gamut

By Benji Perin
Staff Writer

On Monday evening at about 7:45, an old homeless woman hobbled onto the stage in McCullough Hall – clutching wrinkled Old Navy shopping bags with shaky hands and blinking at the spotlight with crazed intensity. "Hate is a powerful thing," she said, smacking her lips, "but how you gonna hate a hotdog vendor?"

This combination of humor balanced with dark drama continued with tremendous energy for the rest of what was Sarah Jones' one-woman show, "Surface Transit."

It was her noble intention to have us identify, in some way, with everyone . . .

Introducing Jones was friend and slam poet Steve Coleman, who treated us to three of his poems, including his first ever lovesong, the charming and sometimes hilarious poem, "I Don't Love You." But from the time he stepped off stage, Jones performed nonstop for two hours.

The show was, structurally speaking, a series of monologues (or one-sided dialogues), that showed us the working minds, prejudices and conflicts of eight different New York City characters: an old African American homeless woman; a Russian immigrant and single mother of an interracial child; an old Jewish grandmother; Sugar Jones, the British actress trying to make it in America; Joey, a New York City Italian cop at his psychological evaluation; a Southern "Old Boy" trying to sell new age Ku Klux Klan philosophy over drinks at a bar; a young black male college student at an open mike for no-rhymers-anonymous; and finally, a young black woman who is a college freshman and poet, discovering her roots.

In a question-and-answer discussion after the performance, Jones said of the thematic continuity of the play that "the identities [of all these vastly different people] are just a big soup, even though everyone wants to separate themselves out."

It was her noble intention to have us identify, in some way, with everyone: Joey, the cop, with his violent homophobia; Lorraine, the Jewish grandma, with her blatant racism – telling a woman over the phone that she "speaks great English for an oriental lady;" and even the Southern white supremacist, who shot an innocent black girl's eye out with a BB gun when he was only a child.

Jones achieved her goal of pulling us into her characters through her humor and then with depthless seriousness, over and over again.

The character of the Russian mother struck me hardest out of all the characters. This scene, only the second in the play, begins with the woman calling, in a thick Russian accent, to her daughter so she can put her hair in cornrows. The mother and invisible daughter share several loving moments over a story about a king, queen and princess – their family. Shortly, we learn that the daughter is unhappy because kids at school make fun of her for being a "zebra" and an "oreo."

The mother discourages her from paying attention to this kind of talk, and though it strains her pride and confidence, at another moment she tells her daughter, in as normal and happy of a voice as possible, "No, I'm not the devil, shh, I'm your mother, we're just people."

Later, when the daughter runs to the bathroom to brush her teeth (and not eat the toothpaste), the mother begins a despairing soliloquy directed towards the father, who has passed away. She speaks of how their child is embarrassed to be dropped off at school by a white mother, when all the other kids come from two black parents. She recounts the days when they – she and her husband – were lovers, and the heckling of "Jungle Fever" yelled at them in the night didn't bother her, but now the jeers become so difficult to face on her own.

She admits that she wants to move to the Russian neighborhood, but doesn't want to marginalize her black daughter, even though "she is Russian too – she speaks beautiful Russian." The emotional intensity of the room reached feverish heights at this moment – so balanced and delicate and real were this woman's conflicts, that many people, myself included, couldn't help crying along with her.

Jones' talent on stage is undeniable. But in discussion afterwards, among compliments from many students, she received criticism from two participants. One, a black student, objected to the "spoofing" of the young black male. And another audience member, a Jewish professor, objected to the flatness of the Jewish grandmother, who seemed to be a "catalogue of prejudices."

While their comments held merit and brought up serious problems with the characters, I think it very instructive that they both emphatically approved of all the other characters but those of their own background.

Sarah Jones related an experience she once had where in addition to an African American male objecting to the black man, and a Jew objecting to the Jewish grandma, an Italian objected to the Italian cop, all while celebrating the accuracy of all the other characters.

I think this objection of viewers to the character of like ethnicity suggests that Jones' characterizations are so right-on, and also so wonderfully difficult and fraught with human error, that they tilt each viewer off balance enough to look at themselves in a new, and perhaps even uncomfortable light.

Jones lives and writes in New York City. A graduate of Bryn Mawr, she is also working on a play called "Women Can't Wait," another set of monologues in which she plays women from all over the world, in a campaign to change female discrimination laws in many countries.

If you missed Sarah Jones, I'm truly sorry, because you missed out. But if you're feeling adventurous, she will be performing on Feb. 17 at Vassar College. For more information about her, her work and her touring schedule, check out the website – very hip – at www.sarahjonesonline.com or at www.surfacetransit.com.

Eric Skovsted

Sarah Jones spoke Tuesday after her one-woman show on social issues.

Story Quilts pinpoint the seams of American life

By Maura Whang
Arts Editor

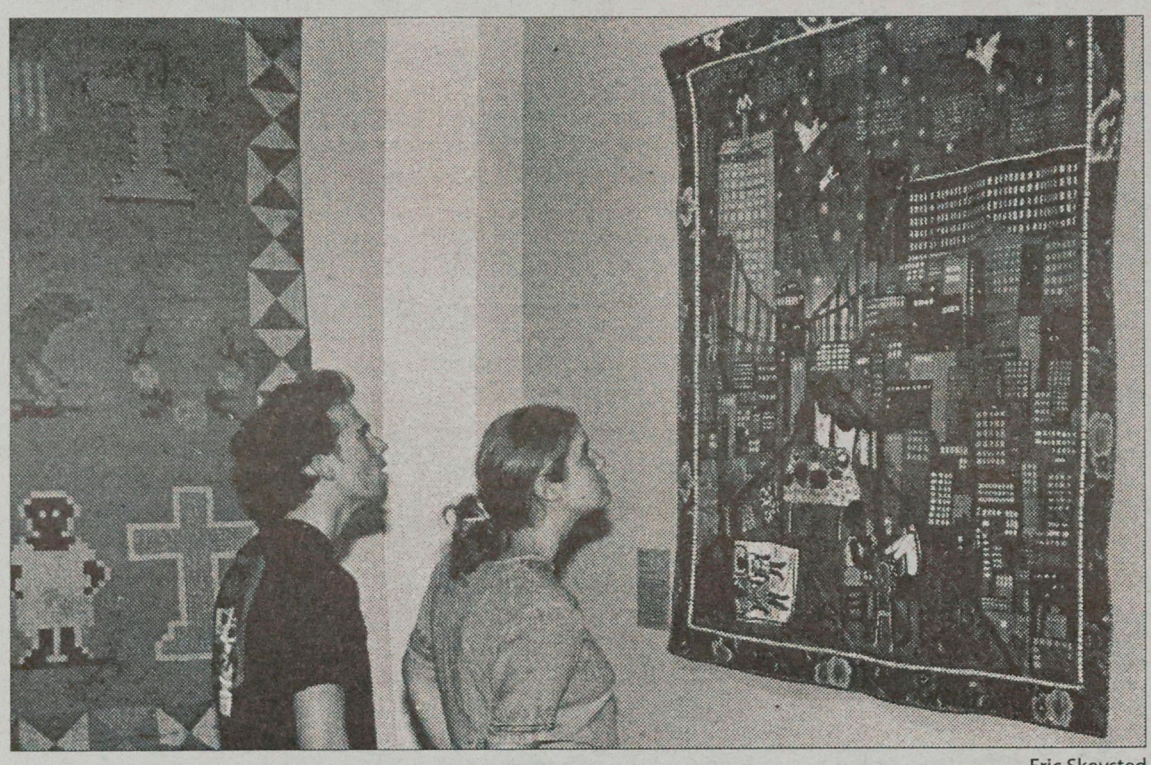
American daily life is constantly being stitched and mended, but tradition will always remain a part of our cultural story. The "Story Quilts: Voices in Cloth"exhibit at the Middlebury College Museum of Art, which will run through June 3, includes quilts by modern artists Faith Ringgold and Peggie L. Hartwell, and quilts from the Shelburne Museum's impressive collection c. 1880.

The eight quilts presented, despite their various creative contexts, all share the universal ideas of life in America. It was interesting to see the similarities between the quilts made by Ringgold and Hartwell and the quilts on loan from the Shelburne Museum. Despite the span of practically 100 years, the quilts created by early Americans had themes that were reflected in the more modern quilts. It was refreshing to see that there is some continuity between the idea of having a story quilt these days and in the past. Although the quilts by Ringgold and Hartwell were anything but traditional looking, in a way they are traditional in concept.

Faith Ringgold, an African American artist, relays her childhood memories as a child growing up in Harlem during the Harlem Renaissance through her story quilts. She has a distinct, viewer-friendly style that not only catches the eye, but also continually gives the viewer something more to find within her pieces of artwork. All the artists use the traditional quilt-making method of applique, but also introduce painting with acrylic directly onto the canvas material of the quilt. The three quilts on exhibit by Ringgold, "The Bitter Nest Part 5: Homecoming," "The French Collection, Part I," and "Tar Beach 2," all consist of a colorful, detailed acrylic painting, surrounded by colorful fabrics and calicos, some of which are tie-dyed. The border is more of what one might consider the traditional quilt look. Written directly on the quilts themselves are Ringgold's stories, which describe life during the Harlem Renaissance. Ringgold is also a children's storybook author and illustrator, and I remember being attracted to her work long before I was aware of this exhibit. Working in a small bookstore, I often encounter customers who are in awe of her work.

Peggie L. Hartwell grew up in South Carolina in a family which she labels as being full of "good story tellers." Also an African American, Hartwell captures her childhood and her life in her quilts. In "The Home-Going of Rosie Lee Hartwell Memorial Quilt," she celebrates her mother's death, and in "The Storyteller," the scene represents her grandfather telling the rest of her family a tale. Her quilts are more traditional in that they don't include the acrylic, as Ringgold's do, but her stitching is exquisite. Rather than simple, straight lines of stitching, Hartwell uses swirls, loops and waves, adding to the beauty of her quilts. In her quilt "Ode of Harriet Powers," Hartwell uses the traditional theses of the older quilts, including plates depicting religious and animal themes. For the exhibit, the Shelburne Museum has loaned the Museum of Art two quilts from its collection of over 700. The two quilts, one with an unknown maker, are full of themes affiliated with early American domestic life. One, made by the members of the Budrick Chidis family, consists of 36 plates focusing on scenes dealing with religion, love, farming and nationalism. The second is created in mosaic by an unknown maker, most likely an African American. The images on the quilt appear to be mimicked from a cross-stitch pattern. These images include a dog, two African-American figures and two chalices.

The quilts are impressive and a fine example of composite art. Ringgold will be giving a lecture Jan. 21, and Hartwell is having a gallery talk March 11.



Eric Skovsted

Jen Dalley '02 and Pete Newell '03 contemplate a quilt by Faith Ringgold entitled "Tar Beach 2," a silk screen on silk.

Gun-toting beauty queen more than just a pretty face

By Larcomb Teichgraeber
Staff Writer

OK, how much would it suck to lose a beauty contest and be given the consolation prize for congeniality? It is like saying, "She's got a great personality." Kiss of death and believe me, I know.

"Miss Congeniality," despite its cheesiness, is worth seeing simply because it can be summed up in three words: Butt-kicking beauty queen. It stars Sandra Bullock as the tomboyish FBI agent who has to go undercover to stop a terrorist at the Miss United States Pageant in San Antonio, Texas.

In one scene, she orders a pint at a restaurant and it turns out to be a pint of Ben & Jerry's ice cream. I don't think too many beauty queens eat pints of ice cream.

Michael Caine plays her "fairy godmother," so to speak. He has to transform her from a frumpy, not quite convincingly ugly duckling into a beautiful, shining swan. He definitely steals the show with his unique brand of humor and ability to glide like a beauty queen down the streets of New York.

The pageant directors, played by Candace Bergman and William Shatner, portray the aging hosts who have both spent far too many minutes in the tanning booth. This is an all-star cast if there ever was one.

At first this seems like the quintessential chick-flick, but it truly speaks to every sex and generation. The women will like it because it shows that every woman has the ability to be beautiful, without compromising her intelligence or ice cream. Also her love interest is pretty hot.

The men will like this movie because it has a lot of attractive women in swimsuits and beautiful dresses.

Being the chick-flick fan that I am, I loved this movie. It reminded me of being little and watching the Miss America Pageant on television. I decided that I would one day be in a beauty pageant.

That dream is long forgotten, but the awful family photos of me wearing my mother's high heels, my Mickey Mouse swimsuit, a feather boa and lipstick circles on my cheeks still remain. Bullock is definitely a better candidate for the pageant scene than I was.

One of the great highlights of the movie is the scene where Bullock has to perform a talent for the preliminary round of the pageant. She is wearing a little dress with leiterhosen and plays a song on the rims of water glasses.

She sees a man in the audience with a gun and dives into the crowd to stop him, thinking that he is the terrorist. He is not the terrorist and the idea put forth is that if everyone who is packing heat in Texas were a terrorist, there would be a lot of terrorists. This display of aggression by a contestant shocks the other girls in the pageant, even if Bullock is Miss New Jersey.

Bullock makes friends with Miss Hawaii, Miss Texas, Miss Rhode Island and Miss New York, among others. These actresses do a good job of showing some depth behind their forced vacuousness and Vaseline smiles.

They are liberated when Bullock brings back a pizza and they let themselves indulge. Pageants are supposed to be fun, and what is more fun than chowing down on pizza and having to wear a swimsuit the next day? Bullock's attempts to eat junk food are repeatedly thwarted by Caine, and she is forced to pull a gun on him so she can eat her donut in peace. Personally, I hate it when that happens!

Pageants are supposed to be fun, and what is more fun than chowing down on pizza and having to wear a swimsuit the next day?

I am not going to reveal the fairly predictable ending because you have to see this movie for yourself.

If you were that little fat girl or boy with buckteeth and a drooling problem, but still had the dream to be in a beauty pageant, this movie is for you.

If you were that not-so-fat girl or boy who wanted to date a pageant contestant, this movie is for you. If you were that good-looking tomboy FBI agent who was forced to be in a beauty pageant to stop a terrorist but ended up realizing that pageants are not completely sexist, this movie is definitely for you.

Go see it. And if you want to wear a sash and a crown just to annoy the person behind you, do it. Maybe they will let you in for free; perhaps they'll let you in on an insanity discount.

Courtesy Photo
Katrina O'Brien '00.5 challenged viewer perception in her senior work, "In My Space."

Artist's give... Editor's take

Looking at the spaces between and within

Space invaders or re-evaluaters? O'Brien's senior dance project explores the question

By Kate DeForest
Arts Editor

By Katrina O'Brien
Featured Artist

Artist's give . . .

In creating "In My Space," four major elements were focused on and developed: space, experience, perception and dimensionality. With the help of my dancers, Mikey Azzara '02.5, Heather Beal '02.5, Ben Calvi '02, Sarah Garcia '01, Kim Guion '02, Nicole LeBoeuf '01, Alison Robinson '01, Andrea Templeton '04 and Courtney Williams '04, I choreographed sections that developed these concepts by first using movement that was generated improvisationally by the group and then by expanding and detailing the work by utilizing these four elements.

From my past dance experience, I have been constantly drawn to the disparity between the dancer's experience of movement and how the audience perceives that movement. In this piece, I wanted to bring the audience closer to the dancer's experience of movement. A proscenium theater layout separates the audience from the dancers as "watchers" and controls the audience's perception of the dance. To overcome this separation, I felt it was necessary to bring the audience into the performance space and allow the audience to see the piece from all sides. As we continued to work through the semester, we developed choreography that would be perceived differently depending on where the audience was sitting in the square.

Space can be seen as a vast open area without shape or form. Or, it can be seen as multifaceted, with different qualities and abilities. I organized the space into four major categories based on its relationship to the body: 1) The three-dimensional spatial volume of the body; 2) The kinespheric space around the body. This is the personal space surrounding the body; 3) The space between bodies. This is the space between dancers and between dancer and audience; and 4) The larger space that all of us share within the performance space. I used each of these concepts to generate movement and to develop the relationship between the dancers as well as between the dancers and the audience. Dealing with space in this manner comes from looking at the concept of "front" and how this shapes our perception.

Looking at dances from the wings or from behind, I have seen dancers from angles not shown to the audience. This view has shown me that movement and form can be found from any angle. However, many times movement choices are overlooked because they are seen as secondary in relation to a proscenium stage front. In this work, my dancers and I developed movement that utilizes the concepts of "no front," "situated front," "changing fronts," and "multiple fronts." Through movement, we explored how these concepts change the dimensionality and initiation of movement.

Through countless hours of rehearsals and the creative energy and hard work of my dancers, "In My Space" was a process of continuous learning about how we perceive, how we experience, what it means to choreograph in-the-round, the notion and experience of space and finding fulfillment in experiencing the dancing body.

Editor's take . . .

I have often heard in the past, with increasing frequency up to the present, that the earth is becoming smaller. Technology closes the gap distance creates, the population is sprawling out, traveling more than ever and interacting with greater intensity. The earth is not, of course, shrinking; rather our perceptions are broadening. Katrina O'Brien's senior dance project, "In My Space," is testament to the idea that space, both internal and external, is an entity that deserves further exploration.

I have to admit some bias concerning the floor plan; the dual ring of chairs mirrors one of my favorite theater venues. However, the intimacy and mood created by the arrangement works just as well for dance as it does for certain theater productions. The square of chairs around the dance space was perforated by eight aisles along which the dancers walked, crawled, pushed themselves and carried each other. The audience was, at times, surrounded by more dancers from behind than they were viewing on stage and such a reversal was unnerving. By sitting in the audience, one became an involuntary member of the production as well. At one point, dancers crawled beneath a section of the audience, through to the dance space. Among murmurs and outright yelps, surprised audience members were again, voluntarily or not, made aware of the interplay between the dancers and their own space.

The choreography itself was, with few exceptions, quite beautiful, having both pleasing aesthetics and meaning. The dancers translated O'Brien's prescribed motions with admirable eloquence. It seemed as if O'Brien was questioning exactly what space the human form contained, what space two forms could contain together, and so on until the entire company was involved with the four spaces she delineated in the program. The organic motions were refreshingly contrasted against a heavily synthetic soundtrack, the segues between segments fluid and refined. The lighting further reinforced the dialogue between the organic and the synthetic, as it was at times like sunlight; at others it took on an eerie blue tinge, or cut across the stage as a shaft of light when one opens a door.

I have to applaud O'Brien's innovation even if it occasionally made me uncomfortable as an audience member. At a time when art is becoming more and more interactive, while the general population exhibits more and more apathy, there is a relevance and urgency present in "In My Space." The discomfort was intentional and forced me to come to terms with the traditionally passive role of the viewer and how that role is progressing towards something more active. O'Brien changed the relationship between performer and audience with as much dexterity as she manipulated the space between the dancers themselves, an action which requires a bit of courage in itself. In an age of increased interaction, "In My Space" is an intelligent commentary on the space around us, a space which we all, knowingly or not, covet.

Piano virtuoso provides climactic performance

By Zubin Mistri
Staff Writer

Yet again, Middlebury College was privileged to have a world-class artist perform on campus, only to be met by an audience of embarrassingly poor attendance.

Twenty-eight-year-old pianist Max Levinson gave an outstanding performance of Schumann's Symphonic Etudes and Beethoven's Diabelli variations. Unfortunately, it seems that the cold weather or other campus events, such as the hockey game, kept the audience to a minimum, which would explain the meager number of those present to hear such an enormous young talent.

Levinson's intelligent artistry came shining through in both works performed on Friday, Jan. 12. In Schumann's Symphonic Etudes the pianist maintained a constant stream of intensity.

Beginning with the quietly mysterious theme, Levinson wove both consistency and contrast through the subsequent variations. The opening evoked a sense of unresolved tension, which developed as repressed energy in the slower, softer variations and then was released in the faster and livelier ones.

Levinson, who began studying piano at the age of five, attended Harvard University, graduating cum laude with a degree in English literature. He went on to complete his graduate studies at the New England Conservatory of Music, receiving the Gunther Schuller Medal, an award given to the school's top graduating student.

Levinson has performed as a soloist with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, New World Symphony, Boston Pops, San Antonio Symphony and National Symphony Orchestra of Ireland.

In 1997 he was named "Best Debut Artist" by *The Boston Globe* and was added to Steinway's distinguished roster of artists.

The conviction of his performance was not only heard in the expression of the music, but was also visible in its presentation. Levinson displayed a lightness of touch that made his formidable technique appear effortless.

The presence of his graceful fingers over the keys was as delightful as the music that came from them. An artist that immerses himself in the music is always a pleasure to watch. When the intensity of his playing reached its peak, Levinson leaned far forward over the piano, his face hanging just over his long fingers. His hunched profile, along with his audible breathing and occasional grunt, gave Levinson the appearance of a more extravagant artist; Glenn Gould, another expert pianist, in particular, came to mind.

Levinson displayed a lightness of touch that made his formidable technique appear effortless.

The second half of the program, considerably longer than the first, consisted of Beethoven's Diabelli Variations. Reportedly, this was Levinson's first performance of the lengthy piece, yet he played all 33 variations (more than 50 minutes of music) from memory.

Levinson presented Beethoven's transformation of Diabelli's commonplace waltz masterfully. The group of three slow variations in the minor, which follow the climactic 28th variation, demonstrated Levinson's sensitivity in what was a sublime sound.

Levinson's performance demonstrated a first-rate level of musical accomplishment. This young artist's energy and talent found expression in all aspects of his presentation.

His visible conviction and sensitive playing made this a concert not to be missed. It's unfortunate that so few were present to enjoy.

Ben Brouwer

American pianist Max Levinson performed a combination of Schumann and Beethoven in the CFA on Friday night.

Glimpse into the male ideas of love

By Katie Curler
Staff Writer

While brooding over a break-up, one is often led to re-evaluate past relationships and their intricacies, and one comes to realize that the present situation isn't as bad as it may seem.

Through the description of the protagonist's five most important romantic relationships and their conclusions, Nick Hornby gives female readers insight into the long puzzled-over, but never fully understood, male psyche.

In his first novel, "High Fidelity," Hornby introduces Rob, a 30-something record store clerk obsessed with pop music and his failures with women.

At the outset of the novel, Rob is involved in a hopeless struggle to prove to himself that Laura, the woman who has just left him, has not really hurt him at all and that she does not belong on his list of top five most memorable split-ups. Rob admits, with complete honesty and stunning wit, his feelings about each woman, describing what she does and does not do. Through his bumbling analysis of these past break-ups, he gradually comes to terms with his feelings for Laura.

...there is no way Rob can share his feelings with them ...and remain within the boundaries that restrict male friendships to back slapping and belching contests.

Hornby's intelligent style gives the reader an opportunity to smile at Rob's misfortunes while simultaneously relating to his problems and objections.

I strongly recommend "High Fidelity" to anyone who has ever had their heart broken and analyzed the break-up to the point of obsession or to anyone who wants a good book to read on a Sunday afternoon.

Hornby creates a cast of quirky characters that completes Rob's world. Each character plays his own part in adding to Rob's madness. Throughout the novel, Rob confronts his comical feelings about the other people in his life.

At turns he feels jealousy for his parents' social life, insane rage toward the new man in Laura's life and lust for Marie LaSalle, an American folk singer. His co-workers at the record store, Barry and Dick, are a constant source of frustration.

The co-workers lack compassion for Rob and his emotional upheaval, but there is no way Rob can share his feelings with them and remain within the boundaries that restrict male friendships to back-slapping and belching contests. Their misunderstandings and tentative attempts to cheer up Rob are hilarious and add much to this already very witty work.

Rob's life and feelings positively ooze pop culture references. He has a top-five list for every situation, and every event reminds him of some pop tune from his past. Instead of trivializing the story however, these references add a constant theme to the novel.

Everyone has felt their heart swell at the last chord of a certain power ballad or known that only "that" certain pop anthem could possibly express the depth of their angst. It is this emotion to which Hornby plays to, and his use of these references make Rob's tale more poignant and pathetic.

Despite Rob's insistence on remaining manly and never saying what he wants to say when he wants to say it, Hornby manages to make insightful comments on the nature of the world today.

Nothing is outside the bounds of Rob's criticism. He muses about love, marriage, sex, relationships and, of course, everyone else's inferior taste in music.

"In My Space"

Courtesy Photo

Katrina O'Brien '00.5 *presented her senior project last weekend in the Center for the Arts Dance Theater. The performance was designed in such a way so as to integrate the audience by placing chairs around the periphery of the dance space.*

Improvisation rides again in Dance Company's winter tour

By Elizabeth Logue
Associate Editor

Those involved with Dance Company of Middlebury have been relishing in their artistic impulses since September. Under the direction of dance faculty member Penny Campbell and musician/composer Michael Chorney, the Company has rehearsed extensively through the fall and January semesters to create an entirely improvised, and continually changing, program for the annual winter tour. Appropriately entitled "Riding the Wild Ephemerid," the Dance Company of Middlebury kicks off the annual tour with evening performances in the Center for the Arts Dance Theater on Jan. 25 and 26 at 8 p.m.

According to the Company, the title "Riding the Wild Ephemerid" represents the unpredictability of improvisation, an art form that relies on the sound and movement impulses of all those involved, as well as a conscious awareness of the surroundings.

Members of this year's Dance Company of Middlebury include senior dancers: Caroline Bodkin, Sarah Garcia, Annie Kloppenberg, Bill Manka, Katrina O'Brien, Alison Robinson and Olivia Whitman. The musicians include saxophonist Darren Case '01 and Jared Baird '00, percussion, in addition to viperHouse (an acid-funk band native to Vermont) members Michael Chorney, saxophones, and Robinson Morse, trombone and bass. Jennifer Ponder, lighting design and technical director for the Dance Department, has worked closely with the Company all semester to provide improvised lighting for rehearsal and will tour with the Company following the Middlebury performance.

This is the third time in a 15-year performance period that Campbell has directed an improvisation-based annual tour for the Dance Company of Middlebury. The style of improvisation practiced by Campbell and the Company is called Performance Improvisation, and was derived from the music and dance collaborations of Judith Dunn and Bill Dixon, both former teachers at Bennington College, in the early 1960s to 1970s.

In rehearsal for the upcoming performances and tour, the Company has developed their improvisational technique under the guidance of Campbell through different warm-ups and exercises. Dancer Olivia Whitman '01 pointed out the need for constant awareness of oneself and the other dancers, and emphasized the necessity of making conscious decisions on movement throughout the piece. "If somebody is taking a solo on stage, and you're standing on the side, it better be because you've made a conscious aesthetic choice to do so," explained Whitman.

Whitman also pointed out that improvisation is a constant exercise of both mind and body since the dancer always needs to be aware of what will happen next, even when doing rigorous movement. "At the end of rehearsal you are physically exhausted, but also mentally drained," continued Whitman. Campbell, too, recognized the constant changes inherent in the art of improvisation, "With no predetermined score or content, improvisation is the most unpredictable art. Its practitioners must be skilled artists able to create work on the spot for anything that might occur."

Following the premier at Middlebury on Jan. 25 and 26, the Company will travel to Massachusetts to teach and perform at the Cambridge School in Weston, the Dana School in Wellesley, Boston University, Tufts University in Medford and Thorne's Market Gallery in Northampton, where the dancers will perform in a piece organized by alumna Jennifer Kayle. An independent choreographer in Massachusetts, Kayle remains active within the Middlebury dance community.

From Massachusetts, the Company will perform at Rhode Island College in Providence. At some locations, the Company will be able to provide a master class and lecture on the art of improvisation.

So with plenty of rehearsals under their belts, the Dance Company of Middlebury embarks on a journey to the unknown world of Performance Improvisation. Though the dancers can't speculate on what will happen during performance, one thing is for sure. The dancers and musicians will be true to themselves and each other artistically, and all of the movement, sound and lighting will not only be a discovery for the viewing audience, but for the performers themselves.

Courtesy Photo

Penny Campbell and Michael Chorney direct the Dance Company of Middlebury which kicks off their annual tour Jan. 25 in the Center for the Arts Dance Theatre.

A blowdrier, a bathtub and the female psyche

By Mike Csaszar and Uzay Topuz
Staff Writers

First it must be understood that we, 19-year-old, male college students, were not the target audience for this movie. However, as dedicated staff writers for *The Campus*, we fulfilled our duty to attend and review this movie. We have attempted to be as objective as possible on the very subjective topic of reviewing this film.

"What Women Want," starring Mel Gibson and Helen Hunt is just another romantic comedy, the kind we have all seen before. Mel Gibson is the son of Las Vegas showgirl who grows up to be a chauvinist, stereotypical woman-using man.

He works at an advertising agency as an ad designer with a predictably one-track mind. Gibson's most prided ad contained the entire Swedish bikini team. The agency is at a crossroads and in need of appealing to women through advertising, so they hire Helen Hunt. Her character's spin is typical: snooty, pretentious and virago. However, the agency hires her because of her outstanding track record in the business.

The acting by the star-studded cast was clearly not the problem in this film, but rather the story line. It simply smacked of media-driven unoriginality. But perhaps there is more than meets the eye.

After Gibson is introduced to Hunt he goes home and starts macking on a bottle of Merlot. Gibson manages to fall into a bathtub while drunk and holding a hair drier. The resulting electrocution gives him the ability to hear women's thoughts. (No I am not making this up.)

When Gibson starts putting his mind-reading ability to work, he is shocked to find that the women whom he thinks he has been charming all these years actually find him to be this sleazy guy not even worthy of a night of McCullough dance party inhibition, much less a date with them.

His unusual ability, however, allows him to revamp his ways and become the man that women are all looking for.

At work, Gibson can read Hunt's mind, helping him find success getting into the female psyche (go figure). Not only do Gibson and Hunt work well together since Gibson just says what Hunt is thinking, but also Hunt falls in love with Gibson's ability to "understand" her needs. It is painfully evident even after an hour, where the movie is going to end up. We have all seen the sappy Richard Gere, Julia Roberts and Kevin Costner movies where two unlikely singles end up together by the time the credits roll.

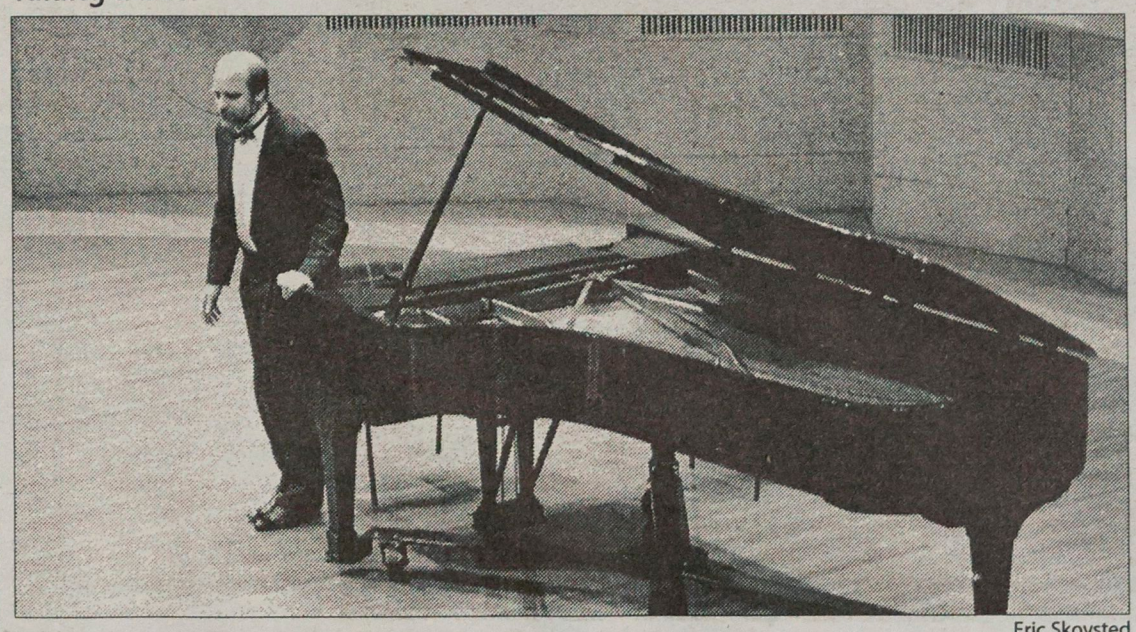
This movie was no exception. The lack of surprise and excessive length of time from the time they met to when Gibson and Hunt finally get together detracts from what was actually a fairly interesting idea for a movie.

The acting by the star-studded cast was clearly not the problem in this film, but rather the story line. It simply smacked of media-driven unoriginality. But perhaps there is more to this movie than meets the eye.

We have heard nothing but great reviews from women and nothing but so-so reviews from men. Maybe this movie does reveal something: women really are from Venus and men are from Mars. Perhaps we are not supposed to enjoy this film as much as our female counterparts.

This movie was made to give us men a rude awakening and to bring to light for women what they have already known for so long. After all, Gibson shows us that what he thinks women need is not really what they want(surprise, surprise). Maybe we are just two more bricks in the wall, two more men to perpetuate male ignorance. But we don't like to think so.

Taking a bow



Eric Skovsted

Displaying incredible talent on the piano, *Paul Orgel played the music of Bach, Busoni Cacioppo and Beethoven at the CFA concert hall Saturday.*

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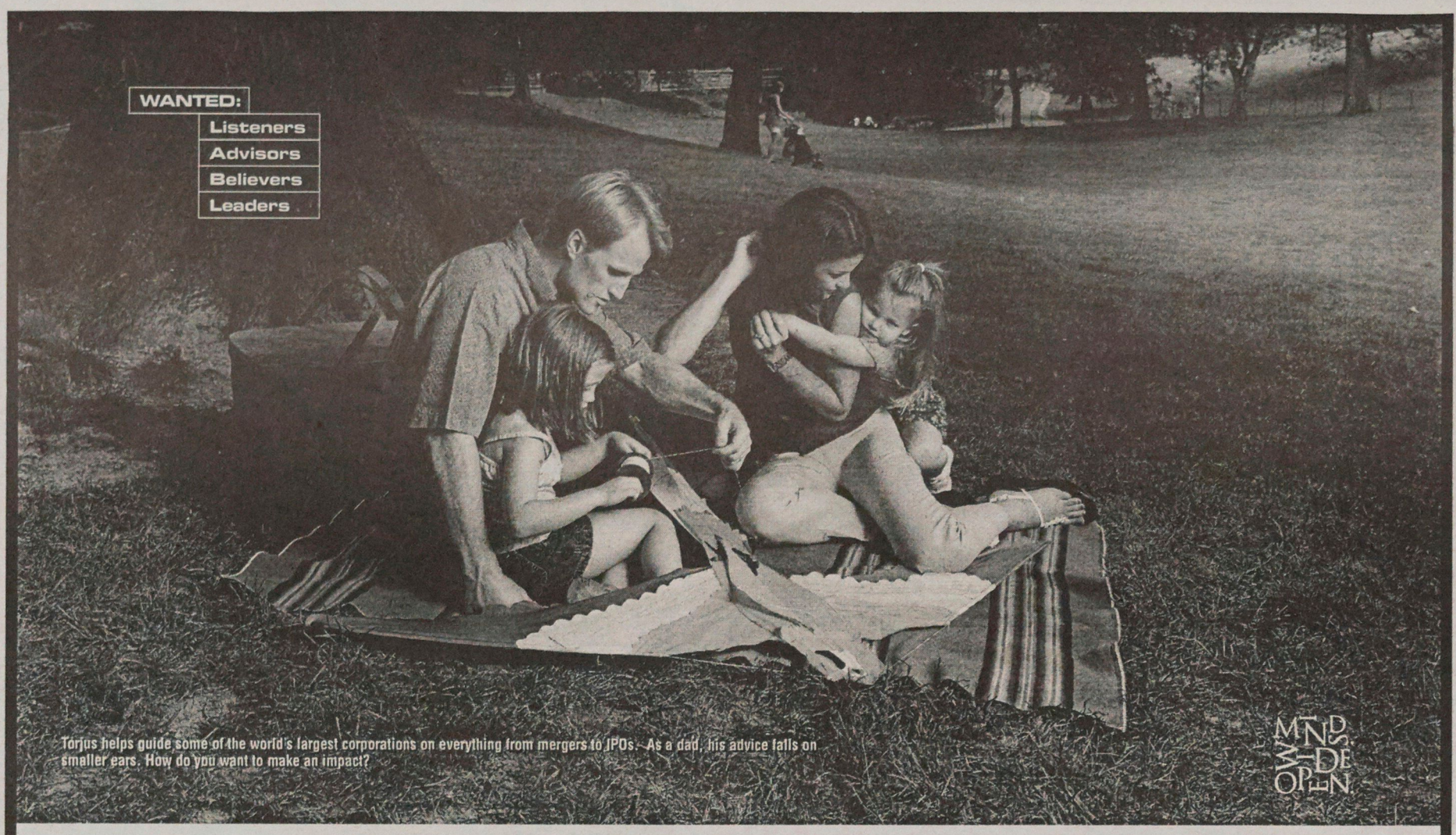
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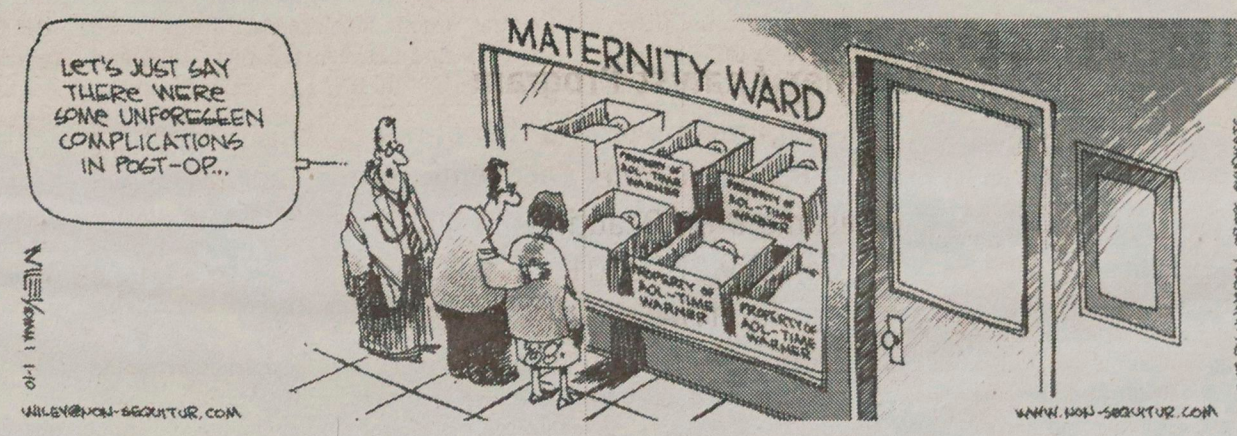

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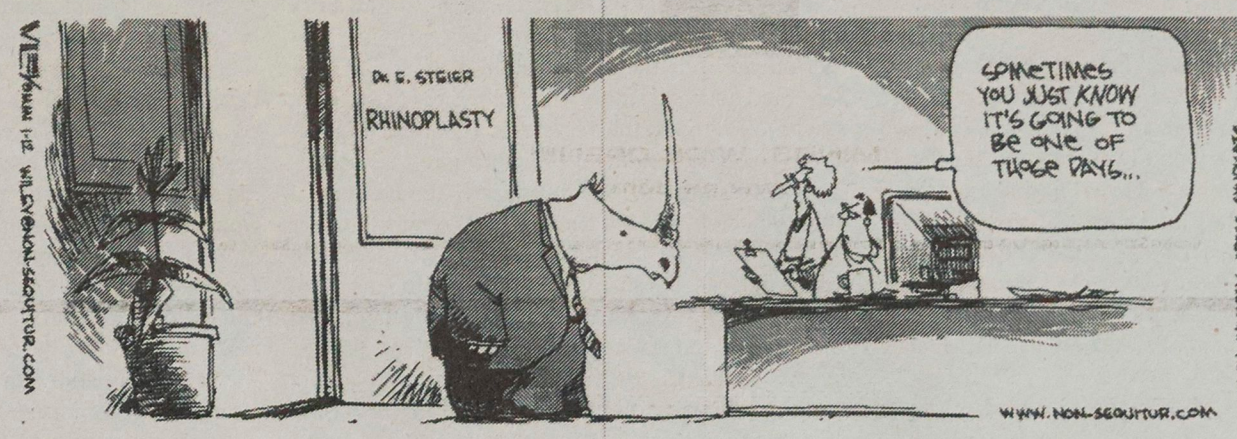


Liberal arts colleges offer students 'pure' aspects of athletics

(continued from page 28)
making athletics work at Swarthmore, where academics is such a priority."

The decision came on the heels of Swarthmore's best football season in a number of years, a season in which they won four and lost five, and also boasted the first 1,000-yard season by a running back in the history of any of the top liberal arts colleges. The team's coach Pete Alvanos had almost turned the program around in the previous four years, even while increasing the team's average SAT score from 1,344 to 1,397.

Yet, according to school officials, in order to consistently field a competitive team, the school would have to bring in about 20 first-year players a year, meaning that more than 17 percent of each year's incoming class would necessarily be athletes. Quoted in the Dec. 5 issue of *The New York Times*, Dan West, Swarthmore's vice president of alumni, development and public relations, said, "10 to 15 percent is the appropriate proportion of a class to pick primarily because of athletic ability."

Since 17 percent is clearly higher than 15 percent the school decided that it must make the decision that it knew would upset many, and just like that, the Swarthmore football program disappeared. "I still am not sure I understand why they [Swarthmore] took the drastic steps they took," Russ Reilly, Middlebury's director of athletics said during an interview on Tuesday. "I find it hard to believe that they were compromising academics for their football program. As I understand, the academic profile of their football team was actually pretty high."

Many at Swarthmore would agree with Reilly on that issue. The team's average SAT score was above 1390, and in a recent Internet poll conducted by the *Swarthmore Daily Gazette*, 75 percent of those who responded felt that the school board's decision was not conducted in a fair manner. Since the decision was released two members of the board of trustees have threatened and may already have resigned.

Yet, there are many who strongly agree with the school's decision. Among those people is Richard Wolfson, a professor of physics at Middlebury and the school's Ellis Professor of Liberal Arts, who said, "I think it was appalling that 10 percent of the males in each incoming class [at Swarthmore] had to be recruited for football. And I think it's appalling that we do as much recruiting as we do. We have at Middlebury and at Swarthmore some very smart athletes, and I'm not implying they aren't intelligent. I have nothing against college athletics but I have a problem with it being such a big deal that we have to recruit athletes to fill teams. We go much further to recruit athletes than we do to recruit students with other particular talents."

So does Middlebury unfairly lower its academic standards to accommodate athletes? According to Reilly, no more so than they would to accommodate a student with another special ability. "I'm sure that we set aside slots for athletes, people in the orchestra, and writers in the newspaper," he said. "So, yes, I think we set aside slots.... To significantly lower, to recruit a student athlete who would struggle, who would be incapable of having success in the classroom would be a tremendous mistake. To bring a student whose numbers are below the 'norm,' but whom we get to know, and we know that that person will survive and succeed—I see nothing wrong with that."

As newly appointed head football coach Bob Ritter takes the helm of a team that went seven and one last season, he must deal, as all coaches must, with the responsibility of recruiting a strong first-year class of first-year athletes. Yet, he is quick to point out that there is a lot more that goes into the recruitment process than the simple question, "Can the kid play?"

According to Ritter the number of each year's recruited class changes depending on how many students are qualified academically and athletically. "We get kids to send up transcripts, so we can take a look at that beforehand, and we talk to their high school coaches to get a sense of how they are doing academically," Ritter explained.

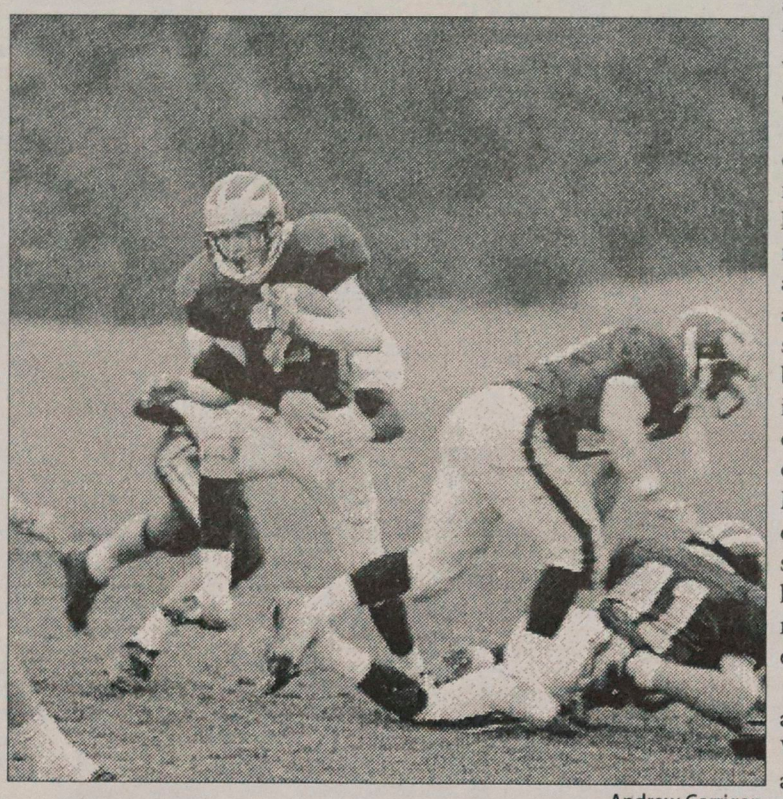
"So we do a lot of research before we continue recruiting them. They have to be within the ballpark on things, and there are different barometers we use to gauge their potential here. It is more extensive than simply asking if they can play football."

Ritter sees his role as a Middlebury coach in much the same way as Reilly describes all Middlebury coaches, "role models and teachers, dedicated to what the institution stands for," Reilly explained. Ritter himself stated, "My role is to provide a great environment for the student-athletes here. I view myself as a teacher, and my classroom is the field."

While many people find faults in having a strong athletic program, those who believe in it do so passionately, not because they feel we have created a mini Division I program here at Middlebury, but because in many ways athletics is pure at this level. And as many have argued, Middlebury itself stands out for its purity in athletics in that the social division between athletes and students at large is a rather minimal one, when compared with similar schools.

"I believe that the students who elect to go to a school like Middlebury planning to participate in athletics do so for the love of the game," Reilly explained. "They are not in it for any altruistic benefits."

Tim McCarthy a senior on the football team and this year's recipient of the Nelson Award, given annually to the most academically gifted Division III football player, fully agrees with Reilly's perception. "This isn't a Division I school. No one's coming here because they need the money or they are planning to go pro," explained McCarthy. "So in the case with football and the way we are coached here, we are told that it is our team, and we are left with a lot of independence. Everyone is really playing because they want to play the game that they love."



Andrew Corrigan

Denny Smith '03 runs through the line during a NESCAC football game.

In general, it would be hard to argue that the athletic scene at Middlebury is an unpleasant one. Although it is hard to prove statistically, most would agree that athletes branch out towards students at large and athletes from other sports in a way that makes Middlebury a tremendous melting pot of various talents and interests. Furthermore, the school boasts an extremely strong intramural program headed by Bob Smith, and all students are able to enjoy the advantages of having a state of the art fitness center, swimming pool and hockey rink.

The argument over whether or not Middlebury lowers its academic standards to accept athletes is a simple one to answer. It does.

Yet, statistics such as those in "The Game of Life" point towards a trend of small liberal arts colleges admitting athletes, who fall increasingly short of academic standards. In one such example, it was shown that between the years 1951 and 1989 the SAT score gap between students at large and athletes (who have lesser scores overall) fell 85 points. Statistics such as these point toward a trend of accepting students increasingly based on athletics.

Such data also frightens some professors, such as Michael Olinick, professor of mathematics and computer science. "I don't think we should lower academic standards for athletes. The central mission of the college is an academic one. I think that there are those admitted to the college who are well below the rest of the first-year class in academics. But that is all anecdotal. There hasn't been a study and I think that someone needs to do that before we jump to any conclusions."

The argument over whether or not Middlebury lowers its academic standards to accept athletes is a simple one to solve. It does. To believe otherwise is foolish. However, the debate over how much Middlebury lowers academic standards for athletes is much more complicated.

Schools such as Amherst and Williams readily admit to reserving a certain number of spots for athletes in each incoming class. Middlebury, meanwhile, will not make such a statement.

So a great part of this argument is speculation. There are certainly student athletes at this school who fell well short of the standards for admittance. But are these students simply a slim minority, and a poor representation of the student athlete population as a whole?

Therefore, the real questions one must ask are, "Does Middlebury maintain sufficient academic standards in dealing with recruits?" And perhaps more importantly, "How does Middlebury as an institution want to present itself?"

In the Jan. 30 *Campus*, these questions we will be explored in more depth, by observing a number of other points of view.

Panthers steamroll opponents, winning two more

(continued from page 27)
rience against some of the strongest teams it will play this season.

In their opening game, the Panthers took to the ice against the University of Ottawa, earning a 3-2 victory. The next day, Middlebury faced the hosts from Concordia, ranked among the top teams in Canada.

While the Panthers lost 3-2 in overtime, Carpenter praised the team's effort, stating, "Everyone played up a notch and put everything they had into every shift. We may have lost in overtime but it felt good to get off the ice and know we played our best."

Finally, in their last game of the weekend, the Panthers were unable to overcome penalties in the last two periods to generate much offense, falling 5-3 to Wilfred Laurier. Since the games are considered exhibition matches because the Canadian schools are not members of the NCAA, the two losses and one victory will not count in Middlebury's NCAA record.

Middlebury's Tuesday night game against Boston College took place too late for this edition. The Panthers next return to action against Rochester at 7 p.m. in Kenyon Arena on Friday as they shoot for one hundred straight ECAC conference wins.

The Panthers continue to get stronger as the season goes on, using their strong skating and puck-handling abilities to wear down teams and continue their march towards another successful season. In the words of Carpenter, "At this point in the season the team is really starting to come together and play more to the potential that we are capable of. Since returning from break, the team has been much more focused and ready mentally to play."

Rival turns tables on men's hockey

(continued from page 28)
ments, and the Panthers fell by a 3-2 score to end their unbeaten streak.

This past weekend brought two overmatched opponents from the Boston area to Middlebury, as both Babson and Umass-Boston fell without giving Middlebury a challenge. On Friday night, Middlebury toyed with Babson in rolling to a 7-0 victory. The Panther offense rode the Beavers all over the ice, as Babson could not corral the offensive abilities of Goldman, and he exploded on the Beavers for a goal and three assists. The following night brought more Middlebury dominance, and this time it was over the Beacons of Umass-Boston, a squad featuring a 47-year-old father of three. It seems that the middle aged Dana Marek joined the team because it was suffering from a lack of aparticipation, a problem more commonly associated with playground sports than with NCAA sports. Unfortunately, the Umass coach denied Marek an opportunity to showcase his talents by keeping his secret weapon concealed on the bench for the entirety of the match. Umass did manage to score twice on Middlebury, but those two scores came on a mere six shots on net. Although Middlebury's shooting percentage was not quite as high as Umass', their six goals were enough to ensure the victory.

On Tuesday night Middlebury made a trip to Plattsburgh with disappointing results. The Cardinals are familiar foes of the Panthers, and the two squads have a developing rivalry. Back on Nov. 24, Middlebury posted a decisive 3-0 win over the Cardinals. On Tuesday, however, Plattsburgh evened the season series in beating Middlebury by the same 3-0 score in a game in which Middlebury outshot Plattsburgh 32-21.

This weekend sends Middlebury on the road to Hamilton on Friday, and on Saturday night Skidmore comes to Middlebury. An exciting rivalry resumes next Tuesday when the team faces intrastate rival Norwich away. Hopefully fan support in Northfield will be strong, as the team performs well with fans behind it.

Swim team earns a split at Hamilton

By Andrew Zimmerman
Sports Editor

The Panther swimming and diving team split with Hamilton in their first meet away from the home waters of the natatorium. Both the men and women trained hard up until the weekend's contest.

Despite both sides missing key contributors, the women managed a hard fought win and the men were tough in defeat.

Men's Swimming & Diving

Sunday, January 7th

Bates	133
Middlebury	157

Saturday, January 13th

Middlebury	88
Hamilton	140

Senior leaders Megan Olson '01, Susan Shepard '01 and Alyson Lipsky '01 were all among those absent from the women's starting team. The remaining swimmers therefore had to really pull together. They did so, putting a great effort forward in the second half of the meet.

Diver Courtney Campbell '04 took first place in the one and three meter diving disciplines. Her efforts paced the women's diving attack while other first-year standout, Kellianne Egan '04, swam to top honors in the 1,000 and 500-meter freestyle events.

Women's Swimming & Diving

Sunday, January 7th

Bates	121
Middlebury	171

Saturday, January 13th

Middlebury	135
Hamilton	108

The talented first year also complimented her wins by finishing third in the 200-freestyle.

Sarah Groff '04 was master of the 200-meter distance by taking the butterfly and freestyle stroke races.

With all the Middlebury wins on the women's side, some notable second and third place finishes proved just as crucial in the final outcome. Laura Greer '01 ensured a 1-2 finish for the Middlebury women in the 200- butterfly. Lizzy DeWitt '04 and Kerry McDonald '03 contributed with key efforts in their respective events. In all the close Middlebury win was made possible by the battles for second and third more so than those for first place.

The women have a tough schedule ahead as they take the waters again this weekend at Union College. After that, their most formidable opponent Williams comes to Middlebury. With the expected return of some notable absences this past week, the women's squad should be in good stead for the rest of the season.

The men had to fight some adversity and compete without some of its team members. Right now they are treading water above the .500 mark at a record of 3-2. Even so, they were able to put in a good effort against a healthy Hamilton team.

Derek Chicarilli '02 avenged last year's disappointment at Hamilton by winning both the one and three meter diving competitions.

Chicarilli has been a consistent performer claiming the top spot in at least one of the diving disciplines in four out of five meets.

John Robertson '01 won the 200-meter backstroke by over one second and gained nine points for his team's cause. Andrew Sterling '03 powered to second place in both the 500 and the 1000-meter events.

With the expected return of some notable absences this past week, the woman's squad should be in good stead for the rest of the season.

Adam Nadeau '01 touched the wall second on the 200-meter breaststroke. More importantly his time of 2:22.00 was a personal best for the senior who has been a staple on the men's team for the past few seasons.

The men also were victorious in the 400-meter freestyle relay. Rick Barfuss '03, Donald Anselmi '04, Dane Callow '02 and Matthew Clarke '04 turned in a time of 3:21.25, a full 13 seconds faster than the second place team.

While the men didn't win, they showed a great work ethic turning in high finishes and career bests in many instances.

Both the men's and women's teams prepare for Union as well next Saturday in Schenectady.

They will travel to New York with their full complement of swimmers and divers.

Team trains for Carnival

(continued from page 28)

garnered 13th and 15th place finishes respectively.

More than half of the women's alpine team is composed of first-year students. Their contribution will therefore be crucial throughout the season. Laura Scripture '04 showed her maturity and prowess with a 16th in the GS and a 23rd in the slalom.

Coach Mark Smith said of his young team, "We are very young overall, but the talent is here." While the women's side is composed of many first-years, the men boast a great deal of sophomores and juniors.

Losing key seniors last year like Forest Carey and Adam Barron, the likes of Rygg, Coriel, Tyler Conrad '02 and Chad McConathy '04 will have to mature quickly.

Smith thinks it will happen. He said, "We may have started slowly, but I'd rather finish strong. That has historically been what has happened with us."

Smith foresees more consistency in the coming weeks from the women and growing confidence from the men. Middlebury has four more carnivals before they get a chance to ski on their home snow at the Snow bowl. The Panthers will also host the 2001 national championships in early March at the Snow bowl and Rikert Touring Center in Ripton.

Next week the team heads to the Colby carnival. With the weather forecast calling for snow , the conditions at Sugarloaf might be unpredictable.

However with a week of training, the Alpine team will be ready for whatever Mother Nature throws their way.

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Women's hoops rides four game win streak into NESCAC play

Andrew Corrigan

Setting the play, Riann Siciak '01 is the point guard and floor leader for the Panthers. Siciak netted 16 points in last night's win over Johnson St.

By Charles Gillig
Sports Editor

It is time for the women's basketball team to finish what they started. With its victory over Johnson St. last night, the team improved its record to 10-2 and will now get ready for the NESCAC schedule. These upcoming 10 games against NESCAC opponents will determine whether the team can win the league and move on to the NCAA tournament.

Women's Basketball

Thursday, January 11th

Middlebury	66
Castleton St.	60

Saturday, January 13th

Johnson and Wales	44
Middlebury	68

Last night the team continued its preseason dominance with a win at Johnson St. Playing without star forward Kristin Hanley '03, the Panthers received quality contributions from Riann Siciak '01 and first time starter Kate Perine '03. Perine had only one field goal on the season going into the game but contributed with some key baskets in this one. Hanley missed the game because of recent knee trouble but she will be ready for this weekend's games.

The win against Johnson St. extended the team's winning streak to four games following victories against Johnson and Wales, Castleton St. and Norwich. The Panthers 68-44 win over Johnson and Wales was sparked by a 16-4 run to open the second half and put the Panthers up by 25. The team was led by a balanced scoring attack as Hanley, Wesley Hyatt '03 and Amy Lowell '01 all had 12 points while Riann Siciak added 11.

The team also spread the scoring around in a hard-fought win over Castleton St. 66-60. The Panthers trailed 28-29 at the half before putting up 38 second half points for the win. Lowell had a solid game with 12 points and 11 rebounds while three other Panthers also scored in double figures. In the teams' 63-49 win at rival Norwich, Hanley contributed 25 points and 10 rebounds in the winning effort. She leads the team in both scoring and rebounding with 15.8 points per game and 7.8 rebounds per game.

Hanley is one of six Panthers standing at 5'10" or above, giving the team a serious height advantage over most teams they face.

Hanley is one of six Panthers standing at 5'10" or above, giving the team a serious height advantage over most teams they face. So far this season the team is averaging over 11.5 rebounds per game more than their opponent. Other inside forces for the team include the 5'11' Hyatt averaging 9.7 points and 5.4 rebounds per game and the 5'11" Lowell averaging 7.3 points and 7.8 rebounds per game.

This height will be put to test when the NESCAC season starts this weekend when the Panthers host Trinity on Friday and Amherst on Saturday. They face a Trinity team (5-5) riding a three game winning streak and an Amherst team (11-2) coming off a win against Babson, the previously top-ranked team in the region.Last season, when the Panthers traveled to Conneticut to face these teams back to back, the team went 0-2.

However this year the Panthers record stacks up with these squads and the team has the experience needed in tough NESCAC games. The Blue and White predominately plays three seniors and two battle tested sophmores whose poise will be invaluable down the stretch. "Our early games this season were tougher than last years, helping us better prepare for the real season," Hyatt said.

The Panthers host Trinity at 7 p.m. Friday while Amherst will play a matinee at 2 p.m. Saturday. Both games will be played at Pepin Gymnasium.

Senior laden men's basketball presses to uphold tough record

By Ben Dow
Staff Writer

Panther men's basketball opened this January by sandwiching non-conference losses to Springfield College and Keene State around a win at Norwich. The squad is trying to preserve a hard-earned record of 7-4 entering the second portion of their season, and to say that the team will be challenged would be an understatement. The team begins its conference schedule against Trinity on Jan. 19. Middlebury's record buys them a second-to-last standing in the NESAC, which testifies to the strength of this season's conference. Four teams have a win percentage of .800 or above.

Men's Basketball

Tuesday, January 9th

Middlebury	77
Norwich	57

Thursday, January 11th

Keene St.	94
Middlebury	82

The squad is trying to preserve a hard-erned record of 7-4 entering the second portion of their season, and to say that the team will be challenged would be an understatement.

On Jan. 11 against Keene St., the Panthers fell behind 25-12 in the first half and never regained composure, save for a 17-5 run late in the first. The Owls kept the Panthers at bay in double-digits throughout the second half, with the final being 94-82. Senior center Chad Malone dumped in 21 points on an eight of 12 shooting night. Andrew Shogan '01 with 12 and point guard Jon Cormier '01 with 11 followed him. Malone collected eight boards to match Cormier's eight assists. Keene St. shot a blistering .440 from behind the three-point arc for the game to Middlebury's .382.

The Norwich game was a better shooting game without question, with Middlebury popping 51 percent of its attempts and getting points from 12 members of the team. Seniors Chris McLaughlin and John Barrett led the scoring effort with 13 and 12 points respectively. Cormier turned in 11 assists to go along with nine points, all while only committing one turnover.

The game was a good rebound from a tough loss to perennially tough Springfield three days earlier. The game hinged on a huge second half from Springfield, as they came from nine down at the half to win by five. The Panthers, despite shooting better percentages from behind the arc and from the floor, were out rebounded 49-33 and only took six free throws. Meanwhile, Springfield took 23. Also adding to the defensive prowess of the Springfield crew was its eight blocks to that of Middlebury's none. Shogan and Cormier led the Panthers with 15 and 14 points respectively.

The Blue and White certainly has their work cut out for them, facing conference-leading Amherst in the coming weeks, as well as Colby and its star forward Sam Clark '01, who is nationally ranked on the Division III NCAA scoring and rebounding charts with 22 points and 10 boards per game. All this will have to be done with a squad that looks significantly different than it did at the season's inception. Forward Romula Braga '03 will sit out the rest of the season with a knee injury. Speedy point Jin Lee and swingman Seth Zoracki, also sophomores as well as point guard Ryan Hilley '01, have decided not to remain on the team for personal reasons.

The Norwich game was a better shooting game without question, with Middlebury popping 51 percent of its attempts...

With a team stacked with senior wile and first-year guile, the Panthers must pull their game together to stay alive in this tight conference.

Squash wins three in weekend battle

By Andrew Zimmermann
Sports Editor

The Middlebury women's squash team has been one of the most successful of Middlebury's teams this winter of 2000-2001. At 7-2 they find themselves ranked 12th nationally nearing the mid-way point of the season. Over the first complete weekend of Winter Term they brought their unblemished record down south for the Williams Invitational.

The Panthers managed a 3-2 record in a flurry of activity at Williams this past weekend. In convincing fashion the team beat its three opponents, Hamilton, Smith and Williams Smith by a combined total of 26-1 (9 games are played each match up). Coach David Saward said of his team's performance, "We played well at Williams, we just got beat by two very good teams." Colby and Williams both were able to beat the Panthers.

The Panthers managed a 3-2 record in a flurry of activity at Williams this past weekend. ...the team beat its three opponents, Hamilton, Smith and Williams Smith, by a combined total of 26-1.

Liz Pilkington '03 and Amanda Knappman '04 who are the top two players for Midd both played well throughout the weekend. The two have done quite well in the top spots considering some integral players for the team are abroad this semester.

"This year will serve as great experience for the women as other players return and they move to more appropriate spots. It will help them become better players."

Middlebury lost to Colby 8-1. This however was deceiving as many of the games Colby took were in fact close matches that could have gone either way. Colby is a formidable opponent but said Coach Saward, "They are the type of team we hope to beat later on in the season."

The women have a tough schedule ahead which includes a match at St. Lawrence and the Amherst Invitational. The Howe Cup in Yale, just a month away, will be the big test. It is the national championship of squash and will be composed of all the best teams.

The team hopes to be in the B flight of the tournament. It is split into four flights, A through D, A being the top group of teams in the nation.

If the team continues their solid play they will be well on their way to achieving such a goal.

Women's hockey goes for century in ECAC play

By Mike Hartt
Staff Writer

With a pair of league wins to start the Winter Term, Middlebury's women's ice hockey team moved their record to 7-0 in NCAA play and remained the only undefeated team in Division III (D-III).

Women's Hockey

Saturday, January 13th

Wesleyan	1
Middlebury	6

Sunday, January 14th

Conn. College	0
Middlebury	9

With the wins, Middlebury retained its number-one national ranking in the latest U.S. College Hockey Online D-III poll, ahead of number two Gustavus Adolphus of Minnesota and number three University of Vermont.

Against Wesleyan University on Saturday night, Middlebury came out firing but could not get the puck past the Cardinals' net-minder until Abigail Lamb '04 scored nine minutes into the game for a 1-0 lead (assists to Lynette Cassidy '02 and Laurie Richmond '02).

After a scoreless second period, Middlebury turned it up in the third to blow out the visitors from Connecticut. First, Nina Kieves '02 tallied two m4inutes into the period (assists to Jean Butler '04 and Richmond).

Just over five minutes later, first-year Kristen Reid gave Middlebury a 3-0 lead (assisted by Cassidy and Angela Kapus '03), followed shortly by goals by co-captain Sarah Carpenter '01 (assisted by Reid), co-captain Michelle Labbe '01 (assists to Richmond and Erin Neil '03) and Nico Kieves '02 (assisted by Reid and Kapus).

While Wesleyan added a late goal, the final margin stood at 6-1, representing a truly dominating Middlebury performance. The Panthers out shot the Cardinals 45-3, with Middlebury's standout goalie Megan Hutchinson '02 earning her fifth NCAA win of the season.

On Sunday afternoon, the Panthers took on Connecticut College in Kenyon Arena and started off the game flying. One minute into the game, Labbe gave Middlebury a 1-0 lead (assisted by E. Neil and Carpenter), and then scored with five minutes left in the first period for a 2-0 score.

With two minutes left in the first period, Kapus used some nifty moves to tally her first goal of the night. In the second period, Carpenter scored her second of the weekend (assisted by Amber Neil '03), Kapus scored again for a 5-0 lead (assists to Labbe and E. Neil), and Audrey Pellerin '03 put the puck in the net for a 6-0 margin (assists credited to Labbe and Carpenter).

In the third period, Middlebury refused to relent, continuing to skate past the physically imposing but slow Camels players. Kapus scored her third goal of the game, earning the hat trick off an assist from Reid.

Catherine Elkins '02 scored (assisted by Butler), and Butler earned her own goal (assisted by Molly Turco '04 and Nina Kieves). First-year Kati Madouras earned the shutout win with six saves, while Middlebury fired 51 shots at Conn College.

According to co-captain Carpenter, "We looked to keep the tempo up and make them play up to our level. The offensive zone opened up, giving the defense room to pass the puck around and make things happen. We went both games without a penalty, which was a nice change. The game against Conn College was chippy, but we stayed focused and were able to pick up a good win."

> **We looked to keep the tempo up and make them play to our level...we stayed focused and were able to pick up a good win.**
>
> **—Co-captain Sarah Carpenter '01**

On Kapus' performance, Carpenter noted that "she is someone who any defense would love to play with. She always has her head up looking for passes out to the point cutting to the net and is unselfish with the puck. Her hat trick was just waiting to come out, she'd been so close on numerous occasions this year and began finishing off plays. Now that she's started I think you'll be seeing her score more and more."

At the end of last semester, the Panthers earned a big win over top-ten ranked Manhattanville College with a 3-1 victory. While the Valiants scored first for the lead, Middlebury came back behind a goal by E. Neil in the first period, and two in the second (one by Pellerin and one by E. Neil).

The night before, Middlebury engaged in a tight 2-1 battle with Sacred Heart University when unexpectedly power was lost to part of the campus. As a result, the final period of the game could not be played; the game was postponed and will be finished on Feb. 2 prior to the Panthers game against Holy Cross.

Also over the holiday break, Middlebury headed north to the Theresa Humes Tournament at Concordia University of Montreal. Facing a tournament of powerful Canadian teams, Middlebury performed well and gained game expe-

(see Panthers, page 24)

Nordic skiing shows well in Idaho

By Justin Beckwith
Staff Writer

Middlebury's Nordic ski team spent the first days of the new year competing under sunny Idaho skies at the 2001 U.S. National Championship. This event draws the best male and female skiers in the nation together for a series of Nordic ski races.

Besides crowning national champions, the event also determines who will represent the United States in international competition for the remainder of the season. Two Middlebury skiers proved themselves worthy of such status.

Colin Rodgers '04 qualified for the U.S. Junior World Team and proved that he is the fastest junior male skier in the nation. Rodgers will compete against the best junior skiers (ages 19 and under) in the world during the Junior World Championships in Karpacz, Poland, at the end of the month.

This placement is the culmination of many years of dedication and the pinnacle of junior racing. Coach Terry Aldrich is proud of Rodger's accomplishment and feels that the event will be an invaluable learning experience for the talented first-year.

Justin Beckwith '01 sprinted his way to an 11th-place finish in the U.S. National sprint race and earned a starting position in a World Cup event held in Park City, Utah, this past weekend.

Sprinting is an exciting addition to the World Cup competition circuit (an international race series that culminates to crown the best skiers in world) sending skiers head-to-head over one to one and a half kilometer courses.

Pure speed and racing tactics separate racers in this event. The margins of victory in these drag race style races are measured in tenths and hundredths of a second. Coach Aldrich stated that this will be the first time a current Middlebury Nordic team member has competed at this level since the 1979 World Cup in Lake Placid. Andrew Johnson, a former Middlebury student who withdrew to join the US Ski Team, will also represent the US in this event.

Over the weekend the Nordic team traveled to the former Olympic venue of Lake Placid. Conditions were relatively warm, so the racers had to work hard to maintain speed and momentum throughout the races.

Newcomers Kate Whitcomb '04 and Kate Newick '04 both garnered top-10 finishes in the 10 kilometer and sprint races. This along with the help of captain Susan Angst '01 and Berkley Leach '04 made a second place finish possible in the 10 K cross country.

In the women's sprint the Panthers took home fourth but were only seven points short of second place St. Lawrence.

Tim Weston showed his versatility by placing fifth in both the sprint and the 15-kilometer races. The Middlebury men displayed a propensity for racing over short distances with three athletes in the top five.

Along with Weston, Matt Whitcomb '01 and Rodgers dominated finishing first and second respectively and securing a Middlebury win overall in the men's sprint.

Next weekend the Nordic team will participatein Sugarloaf, Maine, to compete in the Colby Carnival.

Look for the return of Beckwith from Utah, which will only bolster an already strong Middlebury team

Middlebury to host ski championship

Pete Huoppi

***The Middlebury College** Snow Bowl will host the 2001 NCAA National Skiing Championships. The event will take place March 7-10.*

Charles in Charge

By Charles Gillig
Sports Editor

If only New Orleans could have won the NFC, then this year's Super Bowl could have been the worst of all time. As it stands, the Giants-Ravens game stirs up about as much excitement as a Saturday night in Coffrin. Of course I'll watch the game, but I usually like to see more than 20 total points scored on Super Bowl Sunday.

And for you Giants fans, 41 points scored at home against a horrible defense means nothing against possibly the best defense of all time. Enough with the bashing on this year's game. It probably will be close and go down to the wire so I am looking forward to it on some levels.

My real point in this column is to praise the NFL for being the best league in professional sports. I love the fact that almost every year, a team written off at the beginning or middle of the year makes the Super Bowl. At the beginning of this year for example, the Las Vegas odds for the Ravens and Giants to make the Super Bowl were 75-1 and 50-1 respectively. Last year the Rams were over 150-1 to make the Super bowl and over 250-1 to win it. And don't forget about the Falcons two years ago.

This kind of unpredictability is a rare and welcomed asset to the NFL. It keeps the fans involved and adds interest to fans whose teams aren't contenders (I'm talking to you Patriot fans). Everyone loves to watch and root for the underdog. Take the Rams for example. Last season, people were excited by the high-flying offense led by former supermarket clerk Kurt Warner. His wife aside, people rooted for Warner and the Rams. But this year, fans watched in delight as the defending champs were taken out by a banged-up, underdog New Orleans squad.

The NFL is run in a way that encourages unexpected teams to make their way to the top of the league. The salary cap keeps big market teams from reeling in lots of big time players with their fatter wallets. This is a crucial rule that helps to keep the league balanced and is something Major League Baseball should take note of. The game itself also promotes surprising results because of the magnitude of things that need to be done right to win. Teams that put these things together execute well and can beat up on teams with more talent but less cohesion; good work Dan Snyder.

With the NBA losing its luster and the NHL falling apart financially, it is reassuring to see a league that seems to have few flaws. The NFL is on a nice run and has the marketability to dominate the fall-winter season of American sports for years to come. I see no problem with that.

Men's Sports	
Hockey at Norwich	Jan. 23
Basketball at Trinity	Jan. 19
Alpine and Nordic Skiing at Colby	Jan. 19-20

The Campus Sports

Women's Sports	
Swimming at Union	Jan. 20
Hockey vs. Hamilton	Jan. 20
Squash at Amherst Invitational	Jan. 20-21

Swarthmore's football decision raises questions over athletics

In a small liberal arts college such as Middlebury, what role should athletics play?

By Bob Wainwright
Sports Editor

It seems as though for many years now college sports at the Division III level have continued to grow at an extraordinary rate. Middlebury is certainly included in the group of small liberal arts colleges that take athletics very seriously. Yet recently, a number of issues have been raised that brings into focus the question: "What role should athletics play at a small liberal arts college?"

The purpose of this two-part *Campus* analysis piece is to discuss the examples and a variety of viewpoints on this often emotional and controversial topic. This first installment will deal primarily with Swarthmore's recent decision to drop football, as well as the role of recruiting in Division III athletics. The second installment will deal with some of the issues briefly explained in the following paragraphs.

The 11 schools, which comprise the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC), have made two recent decisions limiting the growth of their athletic programs. First, after this season, at-large bids for the National College Athletic Association (NCAA) postseason tournaments will no longer be offered to NESCAC schools. Only one team from Middlebury's league will be allowed to enter an NCAA tournament. Second, next year's football squad will be limited to 75 players, which is quite a drastic reduction for a school like Middlebury, which fielded a team of close to 100 players last season.

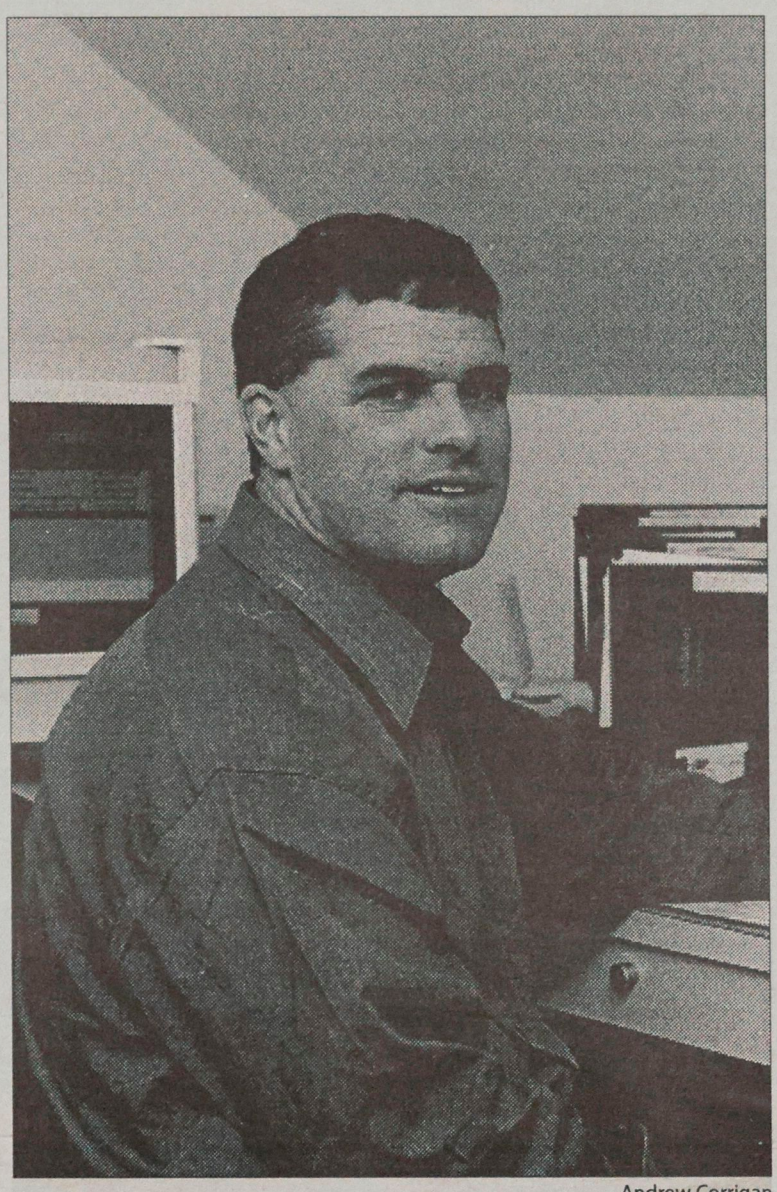
However, nothing has excited participants on both sides of the athletic question more than an article published in the Jan. 7, *New York Times*, which was written for the most part to coincide with the appearance of a new book titled, "The Game of Life." In the *Times* article writer Edward B. Fiske brings into question the advantages of academically strong Division III colleges placing such an emphasis on recruiting in sports.

Similarly, in "The Game of Life," authors James L. Shulman and William G. Bowen introduce a database of information on how athletics influence colleges' class structure, and they raise interesting problems of how educational policy should be run at highly selective colleges. Through their data, Shulman and Bowen show how the athletes of today are not nearly the same as the athletes of 50, or even 20 years ago.

Just over one month ago, Swarthmore College announced that it will no longer field football, wrestling and badminton teams. While about two dozen colleges and universities abandoned their football programs in the previous decade, most decisions were made on a financial basis. Swarthmore has, in effect, broken new territory by deciding that it was sacrificing too much on the academic level to field a football team.

When Swarthmore decided on Dec. 2 to reduce its number of intercollegiate sports from 24 to 21, it did so for the following reasons. Tom Krattenmaker, director of news and information at Swarthmore was cited in the Dec. 3 issue of the *Swarthmore Daily Gazette* as pointing out that "the rationale for discontinuing the football team stems from the impact that maintaining a competitive football program necessarily has on the composition of the student body. Money was not a decisive factor; the issue was one of

(see Liberal, page 24)



Andrew Corrigan

As a new head coach, Bob Ritter must now face the pressures of recruiting a group that is strong both academically and athletically.

Men's puck falls to rival Plattsburgh

By Alan Topalian
Staff Writer

When we last saw the men's hockey Panthers in December, they were playing impressive hockey, having accumulated a 6-0 record with just one goal allowed in the six games they had played. However, a one month stretch without a single game left the Panthers' play somewhat less sharp than it had been before exams, as their record received its first blemishes of the season.

On Jan. 2, the team faced Wentworth Tech, a school from Boston that earned its first NCAA tournament bid last spring, but which had lost to two teams that Middlebury had beaten. In a game dominated offensively by the Panthers, Wentworth eked out a fortunate 4-4 tie. The tie misrepresented the tone of the game; Middlebury outshot the Leopards by an absurd 58-17 margin, but could manage only the tie against a clearly inferior team. The Wentworth goaltending tandem of Jamie Vanek and Jeremy Glasgow deserves credit just for keeping the game competitive. This game marked the end of the Middlebury defense's incredible streak, in which Middlebury goaltenders enjoyed a goals-against average of just .17.

The team had just three days to lament the tie before heading to Amherst to face a tough league opponent sporting a 7-3 record. The match was evenly played throughout, and both defenses played stingy hockey, as only one goal was allowed in the match. Christian Carlsson rebounded from his only imperfect performance this season, as he recorded another shutout, the sixth shutout already this season for Middlebury goalies. Carlsson made 32 saves in the game, and, most impressively, he recorded 16 of those saves in the third period. This clutch performance by the netminder enabled the Panthers to triumph on first-year John Dawson's third period power play goal, assisted by Adam Foote and captain Scott Goldman. The time of this goal, at 8:18 of the third, ironically occurred at a point when Amherst was carrying the game offensively.

The night after the encouraging win over Amherst, the team suffered its first defeat to Trinity in Hartford. Trinity has emerged as one of the big surprises in the NESCAC this season, having posted a 9-2-1 record to this point after having had one of the worst records in the league last year. The Bantams played an inspired first period, striking three times against goalie Marc Scheuer in the first period, after Middlebury had tallied the first score of the game. Once Carlsson relieved Scheuer in net, the Panther defense settled down and allowed no more goals in the match. Unfortunately the offense could not compensate for the deficit that already had accumulated, as Scott Goldman's second period goal received no comple-

(see Rival, page 24)

Men's Hockey

Saturday, January 13th

UMass-Boston	2
Middlebury	6

Tuesday, January 16th

Middlebury	0
Plattsburgh	3

Eric Skovsted

Captain Scott Goldman '01 makes a critical assist to put the panthers ahead of Amherst 1-0 earlier this month.

Jitters prove no obstacle for Rygg, alpine squad

By Andrew Zimmermann
Sports Editor

The Middlebury Alpine Ski team combined with the Nordic team to start the 2001 carnival season with a third-place finish at Whiteface Mountain in Lake Placid, N.Y.. The team finished ahead of NESCAC rivals such as Williams, Bowdoin and Colby but behind powerhouses Dartmouth and Vermont (UVM).

The men and women of the alpine team compete in the giant slalom (GS) and slalom disciplines of racing. Eight days of training in Colorado over holiday break had the ski team ready for whatever would face them in the first race of the season at Whiteface.

However, the nerves of the first race were still present. "I was nervous skiing in my first carnival but I felt at home on the soft snow," said Eric Rygg '03 of Saturday's contest. Rygg contributed mightily to his teams cause leading the men's squad with an eighth and an 11th place finish in the slalom and GS.

Tyler Conrad '02 and Fred Coriell '02 complemented Rygg on the men's side. Meanwhile the women were able to muster a forth place finish in the GS. Veteran standouts Meg Bonney '03 and Sarah Brophy '02 set the example for a young Panther team. They

(see Team, page 25)